VERMILION SIGNAL

ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

Vol. 11. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1908 No. 52.



CAMPBELL LAKE

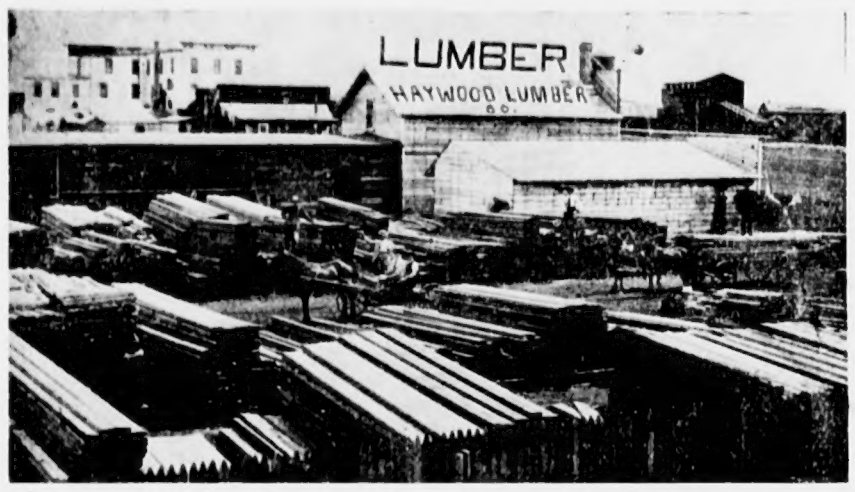
ONE OF VERMILION'S BEAUTY SPOTS

An Illustrated Paper giving full information regarding VERMILION, the Bull's Eye of the Famous Saskatchewan Valley, and the VERMILION DISTRICT

AT THE FRONT WITH
BUILDING MATERIAL

We carry a large stock of all kinds of

LUMBER
LATH
SHINGLES
DOORS
WINDOWS
MOULDINGS



ROOFING
TAR PAPER
Comfort Felt
CEMENT
WOOD FIBRE
LIME, Etc.

We have one of the best equipped and stocked lumber yards in this district and guarantee prices to be satisfactory. Estimates figured free of charge and letters of enquiry from homeseekers will be promptly attended to.

HAYWARD LUMBER CO., Vermilion's Pioneer Yard

FARM LANDS TOWN LOTS LOANS INSURANCE

FARM LANDS On the lines of the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific railways. Thousands of acres of unbroken prairie and improved lands at prices and terms that cannot fail to interest intending settlers or investors. GOOD SOIL, PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF GOOD WATER, SPLENDID HAY MEADOWS, a fine, healthy and invigorating climate and everything that goes to make farming a profitable investment. Write for information. All particulars cheerfully furnished on application.

TOWN LOTS Residential Lots from $25 to $500 and Business Locations from $300 to $1500 according to situation. Some good investments.

BUSINESS OPENINGS I always keep a list of good business openings. Write and let me know what your line of business is and I will locate you in a good growing town on the main line of the C.N.R. or G.T.P. Let me know amount you wish to invest and I can positively suit your requirements.

WRITE TODAY

CHAS. V. CAESAR, Accountant-Auditor, Vermilion, Alberta

P.O. BOX No. 28 OFFICE, MAIN ST.

VERMILION SIGNAL

ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

VOL. II. VERMILION, ALBERTA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1908 No. 52

VERMILION, ALBERTA

The Bull's Eye of the Famous Saskatchewan Valley. What it was, is and will be.



On the Battle River, south of Vermilion

The Indian Trail

OVER the prairies dim and vast,
The hoary centuries have cast
Their blurred and shadowy veil,
Yet from the dark and fading lines
That thread their way by plain and pines
We trace the Indian Trail.

Along the sinuous sloughs it runs,
In blinding snows and sweltering suns,
Through many a countless moon.
The runners of the trapper's sled
By day and night have forged ahead,
And blessed its welcome boon.

Within its bounds in dusky files
The Indian braves, with crafty wiles
Have banqueted in blood.
Counting the scalps their girdles boast,
Meet laurels for a Bungee host,
By forest deep in flood.

And dusky maidens there have sung
Their songs of love with passion strung
Beside their beaded braves,
Who swung aloft their dripping spears
In proud defiance of the years,
Above their foemen's graves.

But now along the olden trail
Fair cities rise and white men hail
The great enchanter's rod.
As stalwart yeomen bare their brows
For bulging bins and fruitful ploughs
That lift their hearts to God.

Yet often from the Indian trail
The lover's song, the hunter's hail
Still echoes far and free.
The wild war whoops, the trapper's call
And the voice of Manitou over all
Calling to White and Cree.

—DON MACVICAR

THE first issue of the VERMILION SIGNAL, published March 1st, 1906, contained an announcement which may be worth repeating at the end of two years. It was as follows:

"Twenty years ago an Indian hunter came to the small Hudson's Bay Company post at Frog Lake near the North Saskatchewan with nearly a thousand dollars' worth of fine furs to barter. He got a trade gun with a brass dragon on the stock, a black cashmere shawl, flour, tea, niggerhead tobacco, red and blue stroud, yellow drugget, twine, Indian awls, square needles, embroidery silk, colored horsehair, gay cotton handkerchiefs and gun flints—a little of almost everything purchasable at that date in the country. Among the furs were silver foxes, bears, wolverines, beavers, and seven superb otters, shot with his own rifle out of one hole in the bank of the Vermilion River.

"You may buy gramophones and automobiles on the Saskatchewan now, if you wish, but otters are few and the beavers are men and women, building homes, not of mud and poplar sticks but of finished lumber and high above the highest watermark. The old cart trails were good, but no one is grumbling over the advent of the C.N.R. with its diners and palace cars."

Frog Lake is forty miles north of Vermilion, and the town of Vermilion itself is not very far from the spot where the Indian shot the seven otters in the winter of 1885.

Vermilion's Beginnings

The town of Vermilion is but little more than two years old. In August 1905, the steel of the Canadian Northern main line from Winnipeg to Edmonton was strung across the south-west quarter of Sec. 32, Tp. 50, R. 6, west of the 4th Meridian and Vermilion was born. The surveyors of the company followed and laid out the townsite and it became known that Vermilion was to be the divisional point on the railway between Battleford and Edmonton and about 125 miles distant from each.

The townsite was an ideal one. A range of low hills bounded it on the south and the broad, deep valley of the Vermilion on the north. The intervening space was a high, level plateau, carpeted with thick, green grass and wild flowers and fringed where the prairie dipped to the valley with leafy poplars.

The laying of track for the railway yards and erection of a ten-stall roundhouse and tank followed. People began to arrive and to go into residence on the townsite in tents. Already there were a couple of homesteaders on the ground, running general stores. Harry Bowtell, government land guide, came up from his homestead a few miles east and



Vermilion Town Hall, 1907

built an office and a restaurant. Construction started on two hotels, the Alberta and the Vermilion, and the drug store of the Hayward & Long Company. The Canadian Bank of Commerce opened a branch. Other merchants arrived with big stocks. Before the end of the year, Vermilion had beaten the record for development. On the site which four months before had been bald prairie, there had arisen a wonderful young town with hotels, stores, churches, bank, lumber yards, school, public hall and in fact all the business and commercial organizations usually found in towns of many years' growth.

First Municipal Officers

Some months after the townsite was placed on the market, the erection of Vermilion into a village was authorized by the provincial government and M. A. Brimacombe, postmaster and one of the earliest settlers, was elected overseer. The place was growing so rapidly, that this step was but preliminary to its incorporation as a town, the law requiring that a place first pass through the village stage, so when the machinery was set in motion and all requirements had been complied with, in August of the same year, or within less than six months, Vermilion acquired the more important status of an incorporated town municipality.

The first election was held in September, Overseer Brimacombe being chosen mayor and the following composing the council: Dr. G. H. W. Ryan, H. N. Stephens, W. B. Cameron, W. J. Macnab, H. W. Brown and O. Baker. The council lost no time in getting into harness, one of its first important acts being the completion of an arrangement with the Canadian Northern Railway Company whereby the town was permitted to employ the company's system of water pipes and power for purposes of fire protection, the cost being confined to the installation of hydrants and the purchase of necessary hose by the town. A double cylinder chemical engine and a lot of extinguishers were also purchased by the council, as an accessory to the equipment already referred to, at a cost of about $1,000.

At the second election in December last, Mayor Brimacombe and Councilor Brown were re-elected. Councilors Baker and Macnab retired and their places were filled by the election of R. G. Dunsmore and C. E. Henry.

Among the latest matters of importance to claim the attention of the council have been the providing of a combined town and fire hall, at a cost of $6,000, improving roads and approaches to the town and the grading of the streets. Two money by-laws were submitted to the ratepayers for approval and were passed practically unanimously. Twenty-year debentures were issued for these expenditures. A fine site for the municipal building, a cut of which appears on the first page, was secured on Main Street near the centre of the town.



Vermilion's First Mayor, Town Council, and Secretary-Treasurer

Providing Good Roads

The provincial government in 1906 built a good bridge over the Vermilion River at the foot of Bulyea Avenue, and the town, last year, completed a first-class road by way of this bridge across the valley, so that the populous north country now has easy access to town. The government, last summer, also laid out a road to the Saskatchewan River north of Vermilion, where there is a ferry. This road will be improved during the coming summer and will serve the splendid settlements along the big river which are supplied from Vermilion.

Excellent Educational Provisions

In January, 1906, Vermilion's first school board, composed of Rev. A. R. Aldridge, H. N. Stephens and P. G. Pilkie, was formed, and Vermilion's first public school was opened with an enrollment of twelve pupils. In January, 1907, a second election was held. Mr. Stephens had resigned, and, the municipality being entitled as a town to five trustees instead of three, Norman Murray, W. E. Mackenzie and W. Bryden were elected to fill the vacancies. For the first year school had been held in the Methodist Church, and one of the first matters to be considered by the new board was the erection of a suitable school building. Plans were called for, and the board decided to put up a $20,000 brick or stone building of eight rooms, the money to be raised by thirty-year debentures. Sandstone of an excellent quality suitable for building had been found in the banks of the Vermilion River close to town, and it was intended, if practicable, to employ this handsome material in the erection of Vermilion's first public school. As no one was found to undertake the development of a quarry, however, and the board is opposed to any delay, it has been decided to build of red brick and work on the structure will start at once. It is the intention to establish a high school in connection with the public school in the early future.

Last spring it was found necessary, owing to the great increase in the attendance, to employ a second teacher, and a third will shortly be engaged. There are now over 100 pupils.



Vermilion's First School, 1906

The Board of Trade

One of the first institutions to be formed in Vermilion was the board of trade, and this has been very active in promoting the welfare of the town. It has dealt with roads and bridges, fire protection, and, in fact, with all matters of public interest, and the officers have been liberally supported in their efforts by the business men. In 1906 the board got out and distributed a lot of advertising matter which was of great service in making Vermilion known throughout the United States, Canada and Great Britain, and this year strengthened by a great increase in membership, it is entering upon an aggressive publicity campaign.

Vermilion's board of trade was formed on February 28th, 1906. The first president was A. C. Brown, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, and the secretary-treasurer, W. C. Craig. They were succeeded in 1907 by H. W. Brown and H. V. Fieldhouse. For 1908 the president is H. N. Stephens, and the secretary-treasurer, W. B. Cameron.

A Coming . . Railway Centre

NOTHING is more certain than that Vermilion is destined to become an important railway centre. Its location, the character of the country surrounding it, the fact of its already being a C. N. R. divisional point, and the certainty that other lines will wish to compete for a share of the business of an exceptionally rich district, all point to this end. Branch lines are projected in every direction. One of these, to be built by the Canadian Northern railway will connect Vermilion with Wetaskiwin on the line of the Calgary and Edmonton road. Another will run south to Calgary, tapping the rich coal fields of the Knee Hill district. Another line is projected northward and will make tributary to Vermilion the extensive spruce and tamarac forests lying north of the Saskatchewan River, one of the finest agricultural and stock districts in the West, splendid whitefish and salmon trout fisheries, and the coal fields along the banks of the river. The Grand Trunk Pacific main line traverses the country immediately

BUY IN

Flourishing Vermilion



VERMILION

The photo from which the above cut was made, was taken from a $250 corner lot on the R. A. Pilkie sub-division, showing the C.N.R. station and the business section of Vermilion. The property beside the station is held at $100 a foot frontage.

The Railway Centre of the Upper Saskatchewan Valley

THE

R. A. PILKIE Estate

Offers this valuable realty in lots 33x130, 49x130, and 53x130 at moderate prices. Full Title will be issued on full payment. Don't delay, but buy!

Right in the centre of the townsite. The main streets of Vermilion leading out of town south and west past this property. The property is well supplied with best of water, two wells are in use affording the purest spring water at 10 feet.

Price $150 to $250

TERMS.—One-third Cash, balance 6 and 12 months at 8 per cent.

Building has been very progressive this winter on the property. Three new cottages and a large warehouse have been erected and preparations are being made for several buildings this summer.

For full information apply to R. A. PILKIE, Sole Owner



MAIN STREET looking East

VERMILION ALBERTA

FIRST STREET SOUTH facing the Park



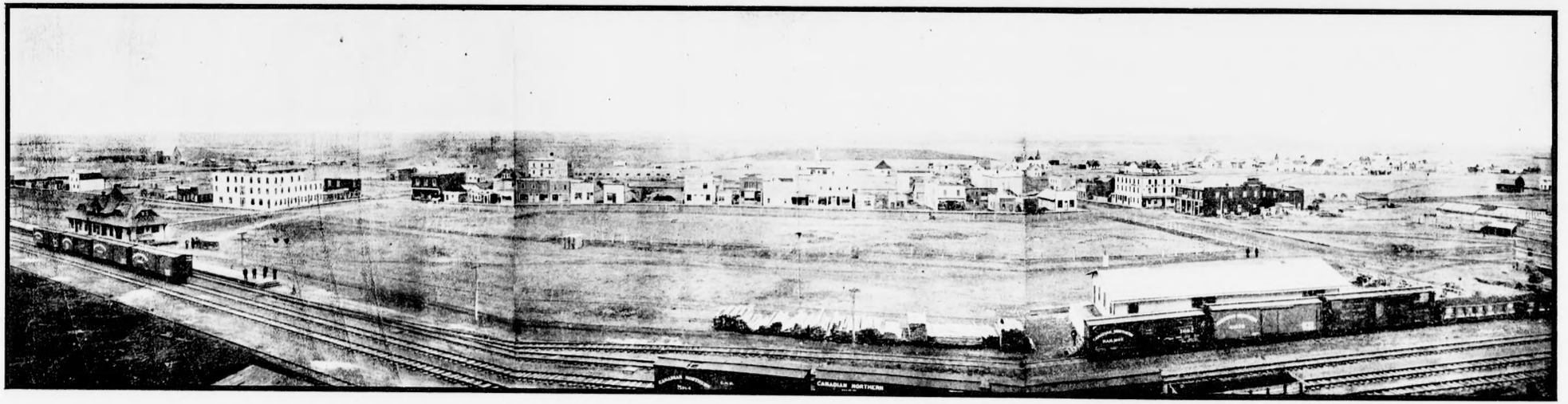


PHOTO BY H. D. MCLELLAN

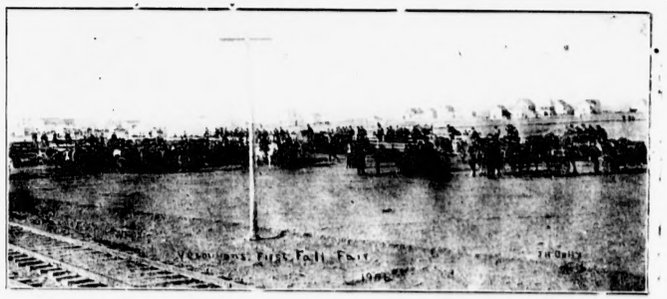


BULYEA AVENUE looking North

Two Years from the Grass Roots

Taken October, 1907

First Agricultural Fair, Oct. 16th, 1906



south of Vermilion, and at a distance of a few miles farther the Canadian Pacific line from Saskatoon to Wetaskiwin is also building. Divisional points will be established on the two lines just mentioned immediately to the south, and it cannot be doubted that both these railways will endeavor to tap this rich territory by building feeders into Vermilion at the earliest possible date. Owing to its location and the prominent place it already occupies in the public eye, Vermilion, within a few years, will have railways running out from it in every direction, like the spokes of a wheel. It is also more than probable that in the near future there will be extensive railway shops erected, in which a large number of men will be employed.

And, finally, some day not too remote, Vermilion will be on the main line of a road having terminals on Hudson Bay and the Pacific Ocean.



Fat Beef Cattle from the Vermilion Ranges

A Great . . . Stock Country

THE Vermilion district was originally settled by stock ranchers, who were attracted to it by the abundance of all requirements for successful stock growing, and the belief that for a considerable time they were not likely to be encroached upon by homesteaders and that their herds would be free to roam over big stretches of country at will. A number of them, including G.C. Powell, Evans & Playne, Steele & McLaren, James Common, and W.J. Rutherford, came in several years ago and were very successful in the business. Then the Canadian Northern arrived, homesteaders began to drop in, and the ranchers found the territory over which their stock could wander unmolested becoming more and more circumscribed. The Vermilion district will always be a stock district, but it will not be a country of big ranches. The land is too valuable for that. Almost every homesteader will raise stock for market, but there will be no grazing stretches covering thousands of acres, and no ranchmen owning thousands of head of cattle, within a long way of the town.

A picture of a shipment of fat steers which was loaded at Vermilion by Rutherford & Beckett, appears on this page. It is said to be one of the finest consignments of beef ever received on the Winnipeg market. The animals were raised in the Vermilion district and were never fed a bite of anything but the native wild hay and grasses.

Government Land Office

IN February, 1907, a Dominion Lands Office was established in Vermilion with H. Bowtell as sub-agent. The agitation to secure this office began over a year before, and its lack was a serious handicap for Vermilion and district. Prior to its establishment it was necessary for each applicant for a homestead to go to Battleford or Edmonton, 125 miles away, in order to make his entry, and in many instances the applicant arrived at the land office there only to find that the place he had selected had already been entered for by another person. All this expense and annoyance is now avoided, as an applicant can select a homestead and make his entry for it at Vermilion, or if it has already been entered for he can ascertain the fact here without having to go to Edmonton, and then make another selection.

Sittings of the district court of the province will be held in Vermilion hereafter at stated intervals.

Free Shelter for Immigrants

A small army of landseekers left the railway at Vermilion in the spring and summer of 1906, to purchase or homestead land in the district. Many of those arriving were in a position to pay all ordinary traveling expenses, including necessary stops at hotels while they were looking over the country for locations. To some, however, especially to those with large families, this latter expense was one which they could ill afford, and the town council and the board of trade resolved that another year provision should be made for the housing of immigrants for a reasonable length of time, free of expense to themselves. A committee was appointed and in the spring of 1907 a building was rented which for the greater part of the summer was occupied by several families of settlers.

The expense was subsequently assumed by the department of the interior and the town was thus relieved from any tax upon its resources in this connection.

While visiting Vermilion last fall, Hon. Frank Oliver, minister of the interior, saw the need of a government immigration building at this point to accommodate the stream of settlers which would be required to fill the great stretch of rich territory tributary to Vermilion, and promised that it should be provided. The minister has not forgotten his promise and the contract has just been let for the con-



Ranch of Geo. C. Powell, Vermilion Valley, 3 miles from town

W. A. REID

Dealer in Live Stock
Milch Cows in season
And Young Stock

All Work Horses sold with WRITTEN GUARANTEE

Pure-bred French Canadian Stallion ST. NICHOLAS for service

ALBERTA RED FALL WHEAT SEED FOR SALE

N.E. Quar. 6-50-6, 4 miles south of town
P.O. Vermilion, Alta.

TO THE FARMERS

We beg to inform you
that we have bought a

Reeves Steam Plow

The best plow on the market, and are prepared to take contracts for the coming season.

Please address all communications to P.O. Box 20, Vermilion, Alta.

HANSEN & GIESEBRECHT

Excellent Cuisine **New Management**

BRUNSWICK HOTEL

Vermilion - - Alberta

HOME-LIKE STEAM HEATED LIGHTED BY GAS
HOT AND COLD WATER BATHROOMS GOOD SAMPLE ROOMS
LARGE ROOMS COMFORTABLY FURNISHED

struction of an immigration building 73x32 feet, two storeys high, to be completed by the 20th of March, so that all immigrants arriving in Vermilion this year will be comfortably housed and can avoid payment of hotel expenses if they desire to do so. The building will be located near the railway station.

The Agricultural Society

On August 14th, 1906, the Vermilion agricultural society was formed with a membership of about one hundred and an energetic board of officers, the president being A. W. Roseborough and the secretary, P. G. Pilkie. Vermilion's first annual fair was held on October 15th and 16th. The weather was perfect and for an initial affair the exhibition surprised all who attended it, among the number being the provincial minister of agriculture, Hon. W. T. Finlay. The fair this year was held on Oct. 3rd and 4th and while, owing to the generally unfavorable season for cereals, there were practically no grain exhibits, the other entries were well filled and the fair itself was well worth attending.

Creamery Company Formed

One of the latest projects to interest Vermilionites is the plan for the establishment here this spring of a creamery, which will encourage settlers to add to their dairying stock and be the incentive for the growth of a profitable industry. For natural feed, water, and all that goes to make a first-class dairying country, the Vermilion district cannot be beaten anywhere in the West, and with the establishment of creameries, here and at other points in the district, it should soon become noted for its production of butter. A company has been formed and the creamery will be built and in operation this spring.



Vermilion Exhibit of Grains and Grasses, Halifax Dominion Exhibition, 1906



Steam Plough at Work in the Vermilion District

The Healthfulness of Vermilion

A significant feature in connection with the growth of Vermilion is that from the time the first resident located upon the townsite until the past summer, when a settler arrived with it and communicated the disease to another family, there had never been a case of fever in the place. Typhoid is the scourge of new towns and this is a remarkable showing, for it can be said probably of no other new place of anything like equal size in the country. The reason why Vermilion has had no typhoid can probably be accounted for in two ways. First, the location of the town, which is situated between a low range of hills and the deep valley of the Vermilion river, which it overlooks, affording perfect drainage; and, second, the sanitary precautions taken almost immediately after the founding of the town. Early in 1906, at a public meeting called for the purpose, the ratepayers unanimously resolved that the town should be kept clean and, if possible, free from infectious disease. To this end it employed a scavenger, and insisted that all premises about the town be kept in a wholesome condition. The scavenging last year was even more thoroughly looked after. A board of health and a health officer are now also institutions of the town, and additional and most careful measures will be employed to maintain and enhance Vermilion's reputation as the most healthful town in the West.



Party of Landseekers starting out from Vermilion, 1906

The . . . Churches

REV. A. R. ALDRIDGE, pastor of the Methodist Church, is the pioneer minister of Vermilion. He secured lots in the new town and immediately set about building a residence for himself and place of public worship. Rev. Wm. Simons, the Presbyterian minister, arrived a little later and for some time the Methodist Church was employed by both denominations.

In the summer of 1906, however, through the energy of Mr. Simons, a handsome edifice was erected by the Presbyterians. It is known as the Presbyterian Institutional Church and contains, in addition to the church proper, recreation and reading rooms, which are open every evening to the public. A church building of this kind should have a useful and elevating influence in any community.

The erection of St. Saviour's English Church was commenced late in the fall of 1906 and when completed the members of this denomination will have one of the most attractive places of worship in the country. The location is one of the prettiest in town. Rev. W. E. Gilbert is the incumbent.

The building of the Church of Christ

last summer gave Vermilion its fourth house of worship. The present pastor is Rev. H. L. Kempton. It is probable that no town in the West furnishes a parallel to Vermilion in the matter of churches. Four churches in a town less than two years old! It is certainly a remarkable record and is perhaps one of the best evidences possible of the sterling character of the people composing the community.

taken to procure grounds for a race course. The latter was laid out and graded on a fine location east of the townsite. Both football and baseball clubs were organised and a number of matches were played by both clubs during the summer. In the fall a joint stock company was organized, some good lots procured, and a first-class skating and curling rink was built, which has added much to the

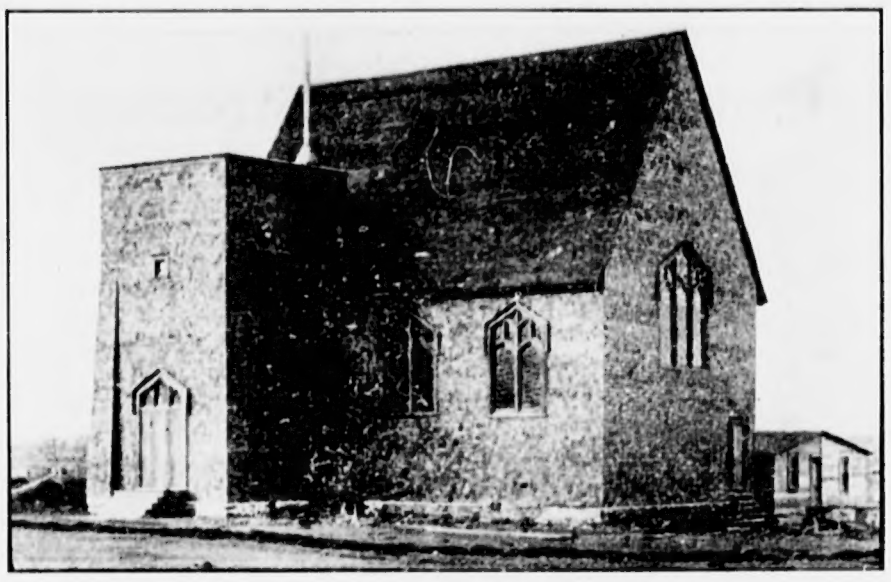
Excursions, picnics, and camping parties to out-of-town points are popular in the fine weather of the summer months. Game is abundant in the Vermilion district, among the most plentiful of the feathered varieties being geese, ducks, prairie chicken, ruffed grouse, snipe and plover. Rabbits are usually very numerous. Big game is moderately plentiful, black-tail deer and moose being most common.

in the northern part of the Vermilion district, and this winter has seen a considerable growth of this important industry, a number of parties being out.

Timber and Coal Convenient

Tamarac and spruce timber is plentiful north of the Saskatchewan River and once the railway has been built north from Vermilion it should mean saw mills and cheap and plentiful

Vermilion's Four Churches



St. Saviour's English Church



Church of Christ



Presbyterian Institutional Church



Methodist Church

Sport of all Kinds Popular

FROM its earliest beginning, Vermilion has been active in matters of sport. Naturally, the first thing to interest the early residents of the town in the fall of 1906, was the shooting, and in this they were not slow to take advantage. During the first winter there was skating on the small lakes near the town and the river, and before the spring of 1907, an athletic association had been formed and steps

onjoyment of the townspeople during last winter and this. A hockey club was formed early in the season, and several matches were played. Curling is popular, the club having ten rinks, or forty members, this season. The latest addition to the sportsmen's organizations of the town is a rifle association. Riding and driving are popular pastimes both in winter and summer, and boating on the larger lakes, which are numerous throughout the district, promises to become a favorite sport. Fishing as a pastime in this territory does not rank very high. Practically the only fish which can be caught with a hook are jackfish, or pike, and gold eyes. However, there is more or less angling done by the residents of the country.

Bears, coyotes, lynx and foxes also afford good sport for those who like hunting them.

Lakes Abound with Fine Fish

In November, 1906, a party of fishermen from Lake Winnipeg arrived to engage extensively in fishing at Cold Lake, about 80 miles north of Vermilion, a large body of fresh water famous for the size and excellence of its salmon trout and whitefish. A number of cars of fish were shipped to eastern markets, some of the trout weighing as much as 30 to 40 pounds. The fishermen found the fishing so much better than anything they had seen in other parts of the country that they consider there is a fortune in the lakes

lumber for the settlers. As coal is everywhere abundant along the Saskatchewan River it should also mean cheap fuel for this district.

Will be a County Seat

THE time is approaching when it will be expedient to divide Alberta into counties, as in the older provinces. When that time arrives, that Vermilion will be selected as a county town is assured, from its location and importance. This means

JOSEPH ROBINSON

Homestead Land Guide

Pioneer Land Man of Vermilion

100,000 acres fine land for sale from $6 to $15 an acre; easy terms.

Some improved farms for sale or rent.

Plenty of homesteads to be had yet.

Reliable information given on all lands in this district.

First St. South, · · Vermilion, Alta.

P.O. BOX 19

BUT

My Dear Sir,

PRINTING

IS	BUT	THE	BRICKS
	YOU	BUILD	YOUR
	BUSINESS	WITH	

Poor Bricks—Poor Structure
Poor Printing— ? ? ?

HAVE IT RIGHT!

Signal Job Print, · · Vermilion, Alta.

Land! Land! Land!

In Western Canada

WE are prepared to meet the demand of intending settters or investors for 1908. We offer no free land proposition, we don't work for nothing, but we give satisfaction.

Having spent nearly thirty years in Western Canada we know the country and are able to give our customers the benefit of our experience.

VERMILION TOWN LOTS

50,000 ACRES CHOICE FARMING LANDS

Correspondence Invited — All Information Furnished FREE

We also carry a complete line of the best makes of Canadian and American Farm Implements and can outfit any homesteader to commence work on his land.

The Alberta Land Co.

Main St., - - Vermilion

P.O. BOX 34

that the courthouse will be built here, with offices for the county officials, and added prominence will be given the place as the leading town in the east-central part of the province.

The Hudson Bay Route

IN the interior of this continent, five hundred miles north of Winnipeg, lies a vast inland sea called Hudson Bay. The very name conjures up associations of mystery, adventure and romance, for what schoolboy has not had his imagination stirred by the story of Henry Hudson, the great English explorer who discovered it, and whose bones for two centuries have lain cradled in its depths? On the line of the Canadian Northern Railway, a few miles east of North Battleford, there is a little town called Radisson That is a name closely connected with the name of Hudson. Radisson was a French adventurer, who came to Canada in 1651 and was taken prisoner by the Indians. In 1663, forty three years after its discovery by Hudson, Radisson reached the bay overland from the south, and learned from the evidence of his own eyes of the wealth in furs of the vast territory bordering its shores. He returned to London, and it was on his report that the Honorable Company of Gentlemen Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay, otherwise the Hudson's Bay Company, was organized in 1670.

The Hudson's Bay Company is the oldest commercial corporation in the world and the most interesting. At the end of two centuries and a half, it occupies a larger place in the commercial field in North America than at any previous stage in its history. It still has its head offices, its governor, and its board of directors in London, and its fur trading posts are scattered across the continent in that portion marked red on the map, from ocean to ocean. But it has, besides, a commissioner, who is chief resident manager of its interests in Canada, with fine offices and a large departmental store in the modern city of Winnipeg, and other splendid stores in the chief cities and towns of the West, and a great area of the finest agricultural land in the new provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

But a new story of romance is opening for Hudson Bay, which will be the greatest in its history—the story of the railway. Fort Churchill, a port on its western shore, is as near to Liverpool as is Montreal, and in a few years more the golden flood of grain will be pouring from the prairie provinces, through Fort Churchill, out of the Straits of Hudson, into the markets of Great Britain, and the Canadian Northern Railway, which stretches through the Saskatchewan valley and across the fields of Vermilion farmers, will carry it. This line is now building and has already reached The Pas, a point on the lower Saskatchewan some three hundred miles from Churchill.

The time is not distant when Churchill will be a fine modern city, with immense wharves and elevators, at which a great fleet of steel freighters will be loading with wheat and live stock for Liverpool. What does this mean? Edmonton will not be more than 800 miles from Churchill, and the Alberta farmer and rancher will be able to command as high a price for his grain and beef cattle as the grain grower and stock-raiser of the eastern provinces.

The Canadian Northern Railway will also be extended west from Edmonton to the shores of the Pacific, and he will find another enormous market for his produce in the Orient.



A Day's Sport Along the Vermilion

A Government 'Phone Service

ALBERTA has, perhaps, the most progressive government of any province of the Dominion She attained provincial status in September, 1905, and shortly afterwards, with the Hon. A. C. Rutherford at the head of the party, the Liberals swept the province, the Conservatives, in a House of twenty-five members, having but two seats.

One of the first acts of the new government was the adoption of a policy of government-owned telephones for the province, and this they immediately proceeded to put into effect. Material was purchased and got on the ground, an efficient corps of telephone men engaged, and before snow flew in 1906 construction on several branches was well under way. At the end of 1907, the government had over 500 miles of line actually constructed and in operation in various parts of the province.

One of these lines connects Lloydminster with Edmonton, the capital. It has exchanges at all stations on the C.N.R. between these points, Vermilion included. Conversation is daily carried on between Vermilion business men in their offices, and residents in the capital city, 125 miles away, and with people in the intervening towns

In 1906 a company of Vermilion business men was organized and secured a franchise to instal a telephone system in the town. Last summer the provincial government took over the material they had purchased and completed the municipal system, which is now operated in connection with the long-distance line between Lloydminster and Edmonton.

The work done so far is only a beginning, it being the intention of the government to keep on with construction until the province is covered with a network of telephone lines, which will not be for the convenience of towns, villages and cities alone, but for the settler on his homestead as well, for rural lines are included in the scheme of the government

BUILDING FIGURES

A FEW figures relating to the value of buildings in Vermilion will be of interest. Remember that in September, 1905, the total value of all improvements on the present townsite, consisting as they did of a few rough shacks, might be written in three figures, and that these building statistics are a record only of two years' growth.

Value of buildings as shown by assessment of March, 1907 ..	$190,000	
Add 20 per cent for undervaluation (according to the assessor, a reasonable allowance).....	38,000	
Value of buildings erected in 1907, after assessment was made.....	$43,600	
Improvements and additions to buildings	6,400	
	———	50,000
Total value of buildings, December, 1907.....		$278,000

an increase in value in about nine months of 22 per cent.

The following are some of the buildings and improvements represented by the amount of $50,000 put into buildings and improvements in 1907:

Town and fire hall, C.N.R. freight shed, Massey-Harris distributing warehouse, Church of Christ, Thomson's implement shed, Baker & Sons' and W. H. McClinton's chop mills; Scholefield's grain warehouse; Bensmiller's aerated water works; Western Canada Trading Company, W. J. Rutherford, F. Backle, Alberta Land Company, Vermilion Signal, Pilkie Brothers, Church of England, additions and improvements. The following are a few of the new dwellings: Pilkie Brothers, J. Muttart, Miss Lousley, Rev. H. L. Kempton, A. E. Mayhew, John Robinson, Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Bush.

Among the new buildings to be erected in 1908 are: Government immigration hall (under construction), $3,000, eight room public and high school building (brick), $25,000, creamery, $4,000, poultry fattening station, elevator, large departmental store, and many residences and dwellings.

Another enterprise which it is expected will start this year is the manufacture of brick in the valley of the Vermilion River, a few miles west of town, by the Eason Brick Company Ltd., of which A. Eason, a pioneer contractor and builder of Vermilion, is manager. The clay has been tested and produces a first-class sample of red brick. Machinery of the most up-to-date and approved type is now on the way, and there seems no reason to doubt that the venture will be a success from the start. The advantage of having brick manufactured at your door and on which there are no freight charges to add to the cost, available for building material in competition with lumber imported from British Columbia and the mountains, is obvious.

A Public Park

VERMILION is one of the few places in the province in which the townsite company, when laying out the town, made provision for a public park. This is a triangular shaped plot, opposite the C.N.R. depot, a full block in length, between Railway Street and First Street South The park was fenced during the past year and planted with native spruce trees,

The Cattle of the Plains



1877



1907

THE illustrations on this page serve to direct attention to the greatest natural source of wealth possessed by the province and the one upon which the magnificent future of Alberta rests—namely, its immense stretches of fertile land. The cut at the upper left-hand corner shows a herd of the first "Cattle of the Plains"—thirty years ago there were plenty of them in Alberta and their bleached skulls may still be seen scattered over the prairie near Vermilion: the companion picture shows the cattle of the plains as they are today.

The illustration in the centre shows a herd of cattle grazing on the prairie near Beaver Lake, west of Vermilion, on December 13th last, and speaks eloquently of the openness of the average Alberta winter.

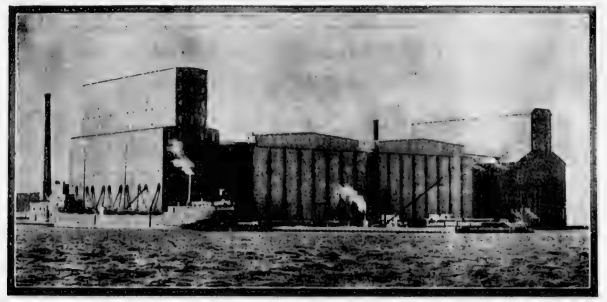


[Courtesy of the Tofield Standard] **Cattle Grazing at Beaver Lake in the Vermilion District, December 13, 1907**
NOTE THE ABSENCE OF SNOW

IN 1897, the report that the Klondyke output of gold amounted to $20,000,000 set the world afire. In the same year the published fact that the value of the wheat crop of the little province of Manitoba was $25,000,000—$5,000,000 more—excited no comment at all. Of the lower pictures, the first is a reproduction of a harvesting scene near Vermilion: the second shows the great elevators of the C.N.R. at Port Arthur, where the wheat is stored for shipment via the Great Lakes to Montreal and Liverpool. In a few years, much of this mighty current of "The gold that grows," as explained elsewhere, will reach Liverpool through a port on Hudson Bay.

The Story of the Wheat





Vermilion's Greatest Store

HATS OFF TO || THE || STYLE LEADERS

STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS

GROCERIES

FLOUR AND FEED



We are prepared to show you the newest styles in 20th CENTURY SUITS, STETSON HATS and SLATER SHOES

FURNITURE IRON BEDS Etc.

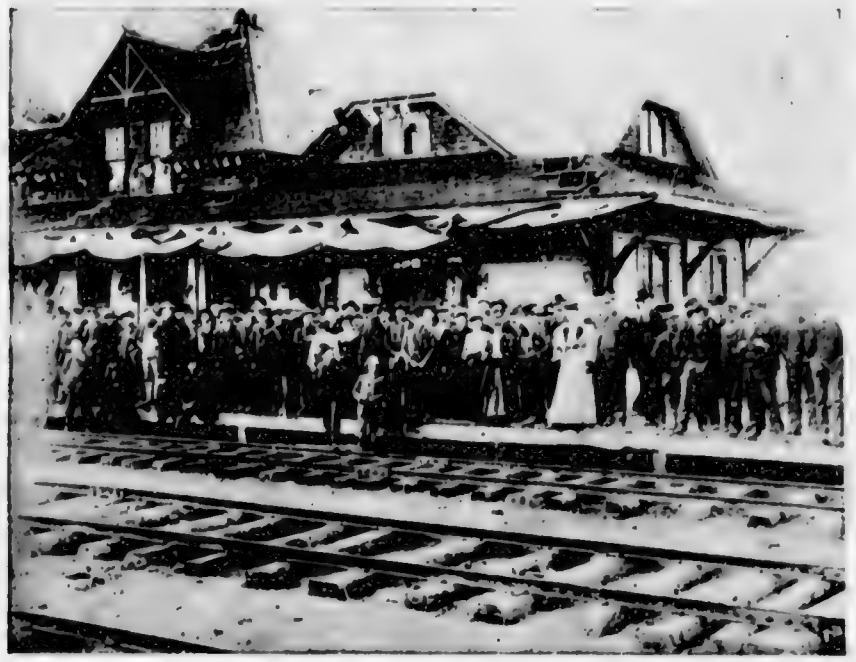
CROCKERY

MEN'S FURNISHINGS

THE STORE THAT || STANDS || FOR SATISFACTION

Craig Brothers

Corner MAIN STREET



When Prince Arthur Visited Vermilion

which, unfortunately, did not live. It is the intention of the council this spring to set out a fresh lot of trees of varieties which stand transplanting better, and to otherwise improve the park, until it becomes a real beauty spot in the centre of the town.

Distinguished Visitors

IN April, 1906, the town was visited by His Royal Highness, Prince Arthur of Connaught, who made a half-hour stop at Vermilion on his tour round the world. In the royal party were also two of the most distinguished of Britain's sons, Admiral Seymour and General Kelly-Kenny. It will be remembered that during the Boxer troubles of 1900, it was Admiral Seymour who led the allies to the relief of the legations at Pekin, while General Kelly-Kenny was one of the officers who showed real military genius in the Boer war, and exceptionally distinguished himself.

In August following, Vermilion was honored by a visit from their excellencies, Earl Grey, governor general of the Dominion, Countess Grey, and their family. The streets and station were gaily decorated in their honor with Chinese lanterns, bunting, illuminated floats and the national colors. An address was read by the mayor to the representative of His Majesty, and the vice-regal party, assembled on the platform of his excellency's car, and Earl Grey made a reply which quite won the hearts of Vermilionites. In the course of his remarks, he said:

"This is a wonderful country. They told me at Saskatoon that their city was a three-year old; at Warman they told me the town was a yearling. I asked Mr. Mann to-day about Vermilion and he replied: 'Oh, it's just a foal.' Well, Mr. Mayor and citizens of Vermilion, I have heard a great deal about the fertility of this wonderful country and have seen something of it myself, but if you can raise such a population here in twelve months, I am certain that in a very few years Vermilion will be the biggest place in Canada."

His excellency went on to say that he had not known until he reached Vermilion and saw the illuminations that they had made any formal preparations to receive him. He had questioned Mr. Mann about this and Mr. Mann had replied: "Oh, they know everything in Vermilion." His excellency, in conclusion, thanked the citizens for the cordiality of their reception and the expression of their good wishes to Lady Grey and himself and remarked that one of the most enjoyable days of his life was the day he had spent in Edmonton the year before, when Alberta was formally declared a province. Everything he had seen in the young province's new capital had been a continual surprise and delight to him, and with the example of such a neighbor he had no doubt that progressive and enterprising Vermilion would in a few years become one of the new cities of the West.

The vice-regal party lay overnight in Vermilion and spent the early hours of next morning duck-shooting in the vicinity, enjoying some of the sport among the feathered tribe for which Vermilion is famous.

A Journalistic Picnic

VERMILION has earned the reputation of never doing things by halves, and this is easily accounted for. For example, it was learned on July 25th, 1906, that the Pennsylvania State Editorial Association would pass through Vermilion on the following Saturday. A public meeting was called, committees appointed and within twenty-four hours nearly $200 had been subscribed by the people of the town as a fund for entertaining the pressmen. This it was decided to do by tendering them an outdoor luncheon on the high brow of the bank overlooking the Vermilion valley. The luncheon duly came off. The visitors were met at their special train by the citizens and escorted to the tables, which were prettily decorated with small silk flags—the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes in pairs—wild flowers and bunting, and the guests, to the number of 180, sat down to tables furnished with delicacies most appropriate for the noon of a bright, warm day in July, consisting chiefly of fruits, including freshly picked wild raspberries, creams and ices. The visitors were delighted and carried away with them a most excellent impression of Vermilion and its people. Looked at from a purely mercenary point of view, the entertainment of the Pennsylvania pressmen and women was one of the best strokes of business that Vermilion has done. Columns appeared in the papers of the Keystone State reporting the tour of the editors, and hardly one of these neglected to devote at least a paragraph to the superior attractions which Vermilion offered to the prospective settler. The consequence is that Vermilion is among Pennsylvanians to-day one of the best-known names in Canada. Many of them have come direct to the place and they are only the forerunners of many others to follow.

The Vermilion District

THE following summarized information regarding the Vermilion district will be found useful by prospective settlers:

The Vermilion district may be described as covering townships 47 to 60 inclusive, in ranges 1 to 10 west of the 4th meridian, an area in round figures of 1,400,000 acres. The valley of the Saskatchewan River contains some of the most fertile soil in the world. The Vermilion is an affluent of the Saskatchewan, which it joins a few miles above Fort Pitt, draining a territory unsurpassed either for grain or stock raising in a region famous the world over for both. The crop statistics of the Canadian Northern Railway for 1906 give the palm for yield to the Vermilion valley,, with 50 bushels of wheat and 100 bushels of oats to the acre. As a stock-raising country it has no superior. Cattle (except milch cows and calves) are never housed, winter or summer, and feeding is necessary only for some three months, or from about Christmas until April. The hay is the product of the wild native grasses. So nutritious is it that thousands of Alberta steers put on eastern markets have never tasted anything else.

SEEDING: RAINFALL.

Seeding, as a rule, begins early in April and continues until the first of May. Growth is very rapid, wheat ripening in from 90 to 100 days. This is accounted for by the length of the days between April and August, the warm sunshine and the frequent showers. May and June are known as the rainy months.

THE CLIMATE AND SEASONS.

The Alberta climate is noted for its healthfulness. The winters are not severe, though there are brief periods of cold. Snowfall is light. Frequently there is little or no snow before Christmas, and by the end of February



The Homesteader

For a Good Job

Of Heating. Roofing or Eavetroughing - -

Call on

H. C. STILES

Vermilion's Pioneer

Tinsmith & Plumber

Satisfaction Guaranteed 27 Years' Experience

Main Street

Next door to Town Hall

The Alberta Meat Market

W. J. RUTHERFORD, Proprietor

Fresh and Salt Meats of all kinds

Fish and Game in Season

Highest Market Prices Paid for Hides and Furs

First Street South, · · Vermilion

LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIAL

Lath, Shingles, Doors, Windows, Mouldings, Paper, Lime, Plaster, Cement and Brick.

If you are contemplating building this spring or summer, let us figure with you on your requirements and convince you that our **Prices are Right**

BEST EDMONTON COAL

J. B. SANBORN & CO. - Vermilion, Alta.

the warm winds and and bright sun begin to carry it off. Often the ground is bare in March. In April there are occasional flurries of soft snow, but these instead of doing harm moisten the ground and make it easy to work. They also start the seed and grass.

The summers are delightful. The days are warm and long, with abundant sunshine, and the nights pleasantly cool. The warm weather lasts until October. The fall is also a most enjoyable season, dry and bracing with days of bright sunshine and frosty nights.

THE WATER SUPPLY

In some parts of the country the water supply is a serious problem. Not so with Vermilion. Streams are common and lakes and ponds abound. Springs which never freeze are found in many places along the valleys and good water may be obtained almost anywhere by digging.

VEGETABLES AND FRUITS.

Vegetables of all kinds are successfully raised, including potatoes, turnips, carrots, beets, parsnips, cabbage, celery, peas, pumpkins and tomatoes. Small fruits grow wild in abundance and include strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, currants, cranberries (high and low bush), plums, cherries, saskatoon berries, and numerous other varieties. Most of these are also cultivated. Experiments in the growing of apples have been attended with such encouraging results that it is believed to be only a question of time until thriving orchards are found scattered over the country.

TIMBER AND FUEL

Timber for fuel, fencing and building may be secured by the homesteader where there is none on his own homestead upon government lands free of charge, under a permit from the Dominion lands agent. Poplar timber for these purposes is available almost anywhere in the Vermilion district. Coal exists in the Vermilion valley a few miles from town, though none of the seams have yet been opened.

GOOD CLASS OF SETTLERS

The Vermilion district is fortunate in the class of settlers so far located within its boundaries, consisting as they do chiefly of Canadian, Scotch, Irish, English, French and Americans. There is no undesirable or unprogressive element among the population, and English is the only language heard on the streets.

TAXES AND SCHOOLS.

Taxes are low, seldom exceeding $8 or $10 per annum on a homestead of 160 acres. This includes school taxes. Public schools are found wherever there is settlement. Any district having an attendance between the ages of five and sixteen may establish a school.

SUPPLIES, FISH AND GAME

Groceries, provisions, clothing, implements and building material can be purchased in Vermilion at reasonable prices. Feathered game, including wild geese, ducks, prairie chickens and partridges, is abundant, while deer, moose and bear may be frequently met with in certain districts. Rabbits are everywhere plentiful. White fish, trout and pike swarm in the larger lakes.

HOW TO REACH VERMILION

Any railway or steamship agent will furnish information regarding passenger and freight rates. Special rates are given on settlers' effects. Excursion rates for homeseekers are provided by the different railway companies. Those shipping settlers' effects should procure cars which will go to the station nearest their lands. Settlers' effects from the United States enter Canada free of duty.



J. B. Sanborn & Co.'s Lumber Yard

FREE HOMESTEADS.

The homestead laws of Canada require the settler to reside six months in each year for three years upon his homestead, to erect a habitable house and to cultivate 15 acres. A son may live with his parents if they reside on farming lands in the vicinity of his homestead and dispense with the conditions as to residence on his own homestead.



One of Vermilion's Pretty Homes

GOOD STOCK WORTH IMPORTING.

It is best for the immigrant owning good live stock to bring it with him, whether it be horses, cattle, sheep, pigs or poultry. There is never an oversupply of high-grade stock in a new country, and any addition that will improve the breeds is valuable.

There are plenty of free homesteads still available in the Vermilion district. Lands owned by railways or private corporations are for sale at reasonable prices and on favorable terms to actual settlers.

Further information regarding the homestead laws may be obtained from any Dominion lands agent or from the Secretary of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa, Canada.



The Brunswick

The Citizens' Band

NO place can presume to be regarded as a proper town until it has a brass band. Vermilion has one. In December, 1906, as the result of a public meeting called in this connection, an organization was formed, officers were elected and about $200 was subscribed to buy instruments. Subsequently, the town council decided that it might very properly shoulder the expense and about $400 was voted to pay for the outfit. Mr. Hugh H. Collins, a son of old Scotia and an accomplished musician who last year located in Vermilion, was appointed to the position of bandmaster and under his capable drilling the Vermilion Citizens' Band has become an institution of which every Vermilionite is justly proud. There are about twenty-five pieces in the band. It has made steady progress from the start. Every player has worked hard and conscientiously to become proficient and it has attained to such a degree of excellence that it may be counted upon to give a good account of itself in any company.

Fraternal Societies

THE fraternal orders are represented in Vermilion by the Masons, Oddfellows and Foresters. In November, 1906, Vermilion Lodge A.F. & A.M. was instituted under dispensation, and a charter was granted the lodge in the following June. An Oddfellows' lodge was established a little later and two Foresters' lodges in the same year. All the Vermilion lodges have a good membership and are in a thriving condition.

Good Water in Plenty

VERMILION has one of the best water supplies in the country. The banks of the valley fronting the town abound in springs of splendid water, while in 1906 the council had two public wells drilled, which furnish an unfailing supply of water equally as good. There are, in addition, a number of wells owned by private citizens.

As It Was Written

OUTSIDE opinions of a country and its people are always interesting. The stranger comes with a mind free from bias, either favorable or unfavorable, and open to receive impressions. And when these impressions will not allow him to be satisfied with unsentimental statements of fact but lead him to express his views in terms of enthusiastic and unqualified approval, it is pretty strong testimony that the land is good. The following are extracts taken from papers sent to the



Craig Brothers General Store

editor of the SIGNAL by the touring Pennsylvanian pressmen after their return home:

ROOM FOR ONE HUNDRED MILLIONS

ERASMUS WILSON, IN THE PITTSBURG GAZETTE-TIMES: One hundred million people can find comfortable homes in the Canadian Northwest, and it will still be less densely populated than are our western states at present.

This is an astounding statement, yet it is true as gospel

The country is there to show for itself, and the people who are there have the goods to prove that the land is equal in richness to any on the continent

But that which gives most confidence in the future prosperity of the modern Canaan is the character of the people who are going in to possess the land. They are not poor people who are in search of places where they can live with less effort than in the States, but those who see the opportunities offered, and have the nerve to dare and to do.

A majority of those going from the States have the means at hand to buy land, build houses, and begin farming at once

With the proceeds of 160 acres of farming land in Iowa a man bought 1,600 acres not far from Calgary, built a house and bought farming implements He expects to get 40 bushels of wheat to the acre this year, while the best he could have hoped for in Iowa would be 20 bushels

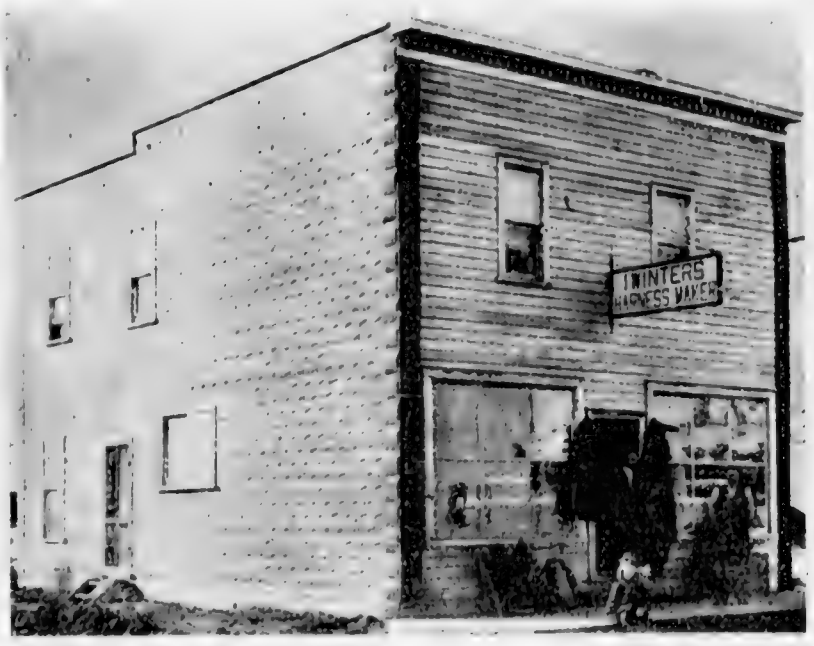
But don't imagine that such good fortune comes without effort. Pluck and perseverance are just as essential to success there as anywhere. All that is offered to anyone is a fine opportunity to succeed

Not all who go there succeed, but it is for lack of backbone, industry or perseverance. Indolent or improvident people will find it the worst sort of a place for everybody works there, including father

Recent discoveries of coal in interior sections as far north as Edmonton, indicate that the prairie sections will soon have cheap and convenient fuel There is considerable anthracite coal in the mountain sections, but it has not been mined extensively

Railroad building is on the boom, but does not seem able to meet the demands For a long time the Canadian Pacific road has monopolized business, but the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Northern are opening up new and exceedingly rich territories.

In order to accommodate the farmers it will be necessary to build a great many cross roads. The people don't mind hauling their grain 20 miles, but farther than that takes off too much of the profit



I. Winters' Harness Shop

Just now is a good time to see this country, as harvesting is only beginning and will not be finished in the extreme north for three or four weeks

Harvesting up there means not only the cutting of the grain, but threshing and housing it. On account of the dryness of the atmosphere wheat is ready to thresh as soon as it is cut, and usually the cutting and threshing are both going on in the same field at the same time. And as fast as the grain can be sacked it is taken to the elevators at the railroad stations, where it remains until it is sold. One farmer at Indian Head said he threshed 32,000 bushels of wheat last year and about the same of oats and barley but expected to make it 50,000 this year. He did not seem to think this was a big thing, and it was'nt when compared with some of the farming operations in that section, but it jolted the Pennsylvania editors right sharply, particularly those who had been raised on farms where 300 bushels was thought to be a big crop

VERMILION AS A LOCATION

REPUBLICAN STANDARD: Our next stop was at Vermilion, an eight month old town. The citizens apologised for the size of it by telling us that lumber could not be gotten into the town fast enough to supply the demand. Here we were treated to a fine luncheon, served out on the open prairie with one of the finest views one could wish as an appetiser. These enterprising people raised two hundred dollars to feed the Pennsylvania Editorial Association when they learned we would stop

We are now becoming known as the Pennsylvania Eating Association. You couldn't blame us if you had seen the things they placed before us. But we were not only pleased with the hospitality of the people but also with their excellent country. No one would make a mistake if they cast their lot among the people of Vermilion We have had towns of rapid growth in Westmoreland county, but here, where nine months ago was only the virgin prairie, today is the site of an incorporated town of 800 souls

It is an interesting fact that this young town of Vermilion has applied for a charter for an agricultural association, 58 names being signed to the application, the government requirements being 50. This shows the get-up-and go disposition of the western people

The Canadian government is also more liberal than that of the States in the matter of agricultural societies. In Canada the government appropriates an amount equal to one third of the premiums paid by the association the year previous in addition to one dollar for each member af the association.

WILL BE AN IMPORTANT POINT.

MARION CENTRE INDEPENDENT: Vermilion, a new town only 8 months old, was reached at noon. No stop was scheduled for this place but the good people surprised us by "holding up" the train and escorting the party to a beautiful spot on the outskirts of the town, overlooking a picture of a valley, where a group of tables was spread with everything that goes to make up a magnificent feast from the substantials down to the finest deliencies, fruit, etc. To show the enterprise of these people, we noticed in the paper published at the place that they had only learned of our coming a couple of days before. A meeting was called and in a few hours all arrangements were made for the entertainment and nearly $200 raised to provide the feast. Vermilion is situated in a rich section, her people are hustlers and the place is rapidly building up with substantial structures. The town will be one of the important points in Alberta.

WONDERFUL LAND OF PROMISE

INDIANA (PA.) GAZETTE: As the Pennsylvania State Editorial excursion party has now crossed the continent and is well on its way east, the 156 persons comprising this big family have gotten their impressions of this wonderful land of promise fairly well catalogued and are in a position to express them, albeit it will be many days before the great mass of information received will be thoroughly digested and assimilated.

There is no copyright on the expression "I've surely had my eyes opened. I never dreamed that all these beautiful towns and all these up-to-date people existed in the 'wilds' of Canada," for that expression is common property and is frequently expressed

Many of us left home with the vague idea that Canada was made up of a few populous provinces around Montreal, Toronto and Quebec, all the balance being a vast unsettled region, sparsely populated with Indians, semi civilized French Canadians and homesick immigrants.

In place of that we have found a veritable Garden of Eden, with billowy fields of waist high wheat ready for the harvesters; miles upon miles of oats with stalks two or three feet high. We have seen great herds of sleek



W. F. Raddatz's Shop



Stephens Brothers' Grocery Department

Where Will I Purchase My Supplies?

Is a question interesting to every Settler. We have the STOCK from which to make a selection, the QUALITY which is a first consideration, and the LOWEST PRICE consistent with it.

We present to you a photograph of one of our oldest customers. WHY THIS PLEASED EXPRESSION? Specially note that it is one of satisfaction.



Any Goods purchased here (except special bargains) can be returned and money will be refunded

STEPHENS BROTHERS



HON. C. W. CROSS

THE administration of the government of Alberta is in the hands of four men, whose portraits appear on this page: Hon. A. C. Rutherford LL.D., premier and minister of education; Hon. C. W. Cross, attorney general; Hon. W. H. Cushing, minister of public works; and Hon. W. T. Finlay, minister of agriculture. As has been already stated, the government of Alberta has shown itself perhaps the most progressive provincial government in the Dominion. The premier, among other things, has introduced legislation to provide a university for the province and free readers in the public schools; the attorney general is responsible for the act creating Alberta's admirable judicial system, the workmen's compensation bill, a reform school for youthful delinquents, the successful prosecution of the lumber combine, and other important work and measures; to Hon. Mr. Cushing belongs the credit for the vigorous carrying out of the telephone policy of the province, previously referred to; while Hon. Mr. Finlay has devoted his energies most successfully to the promotion of the agricultural interests of Alberta, including the establishment of government creameries, poultry fattening stations, experimental farms and other comprehensive and valuable institutions. Briefly, the work of the provincial government has given the greatest satisfaction to the people generally, and Conservatives have been no less ready to express their approval than those on the opposite side of politics.



HON. FRANK OLIVER

HON. FRANK OLIVER, minister of the interior, is a typical westerner. Born in Ontario, he came west nearly thirty years ago to Edmonton, leaving Fort Garry for the thousand mile trek across the prairie to Alberta's future capital, like many more of the pioneers, with a Red River cart drawn by an ox. Soon after his arrival he established the Bulletin, which had only one predecessor in the newspaper field west of Manitoba, the Saskatchewan Herald, founded at Battleford, then the capital of the country, in 1878. The original Bulletin consisted only of four pages, each about the size of a sheet of ordinary letter paper. It is now an eight-page daily. For a number of years Mr. Oliver was the full staff of the Bulletin, from editor to devil, but the Bulletin and its editor were fearless, virile and logical and from the first they made their impress upon the country. Mr. Oliver drifted naturally into politics, first in the territorial and later the broader federal field, and he soon became the foremost figure on the political stage west of Manitoba. In 1905, Mr. Oliver was invited by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, premier of the Dominion, to take the portfolio of the interior in his cabinet, a position which he has since filled with credit to himself and marked benefit to the western provinces. As a pioneer, Mr. Oliver knows as no other man in the government can the possibilities and requirements of the West, with the administration of the affairs of which he is particularly charged, and he is eminently the right man in the right place.



HON. A. C. RUTHERFORD

"Canada's Fertile Northland."

A BOOK has just been issued by the department of the interior at Ottawa, entitled "Canada's Fertile Northland." It is eloquent with the testimony of men who have spent years in that vast territory regarding the wonderful agricultural possibilities of a hitherto little-known country. The photographs from which the illustrations are produced tell more forcibly even than the words of these witnesses what the future of this great northern empire may be. They show magnificent fields of wheat on the Peace River, hundreds of miles north of Edmonton, prairies knee-deep in grass, stacks of big potatoes in fields which border the Great Slave Lake. And they show other fields on the Mackenzie River, 11 miles from the Arctic Circle and a thousand miles from the Saskatchewan River, with long rows of potatoes in luxuriant growth. Lines also come back of wheat on the Mackenzie River as high as a well-matured wheat in the middle of Asia; natural oil, gas and salt wells and spruce timber seventy-five feet high and a foot and a half thick on the stump. These northern lakes and streams teem with the finest fish and the whole territory is a mighty preserve of the big game animals, such as moose, caribou, bear and musk ox. All this great territory remains to be developed. It is practically a newly discovered continent.



HON. W. T. FINLAY



PARLIAMENT BUILDING OF ALBERTA

The City of Edmonton

A FEW words here regarding the capital city of Alberta may not be out of place. Half a century ago, Edmonton was the chief trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company on the Saskatchewan River. The old fort was situated on a high bluff on the north bank, overlooking the deep, wooded valley, walled in by a stout stockade of tall posts, with blockhouses and portholes at each corner through which small brass cannon looked grimly out. In the early days, the warlike Blackfeet brought packs of buffalo robes and bags of pemmican to barter peaceably with the company's officers at Fort Edmonton; or, when their fancy prompted, they came mounted on their hardy ponies, half-naked, befeathered and painted, and in retaliation for some hypothetical slight or wrong, fired on the fort from the south bank of the river.

On this page is a cut of the provincial parliament building of Alberta as it will appear when completed. Work on the structure was commenced last summer and the foundation is almost finished. This magnificent pile of stone and marble will stand on the historic ground occupied half a century ago by the old wooden fort of Edmonton and its bullet-battered log walls and stockade.

Twenty years ago Edmonton was little, if any, larger than is Vermilion. Today it is a splendid modern city with a population of 15,000, with fine brick and stone office blocks, buildings and hotels, asphalted streets, granolithic pavements, waterworks and sewerage systems, a dozen banks, eight newspapers, twelve churches, two colleges, three hospitals, theatres—in fact, practically all the features which go to make up a modern city of the most progressive type.

Edmonton has at present two railways running into the city. In another twelve months six will have four. Three of these roads within a short period, will have terminals on the Pacific coast.

Edmonton is but at the threshold of her destiny, and in time will be one of the most beautiful as well as one of the greatest among Canadian cities. To-day Edmonton is a place to which every Albertan refers with pride. She is rich, attractive, confident of the future, aggressively progressive,—typical of Alberta and its people.



HON. W. H. CUSHING

. . THE . .

Vermilion Livery

We take the opportunity of informing the many homeseekers expecting to settle in this district that we are prepared to furnish

FIRST-CLASS LIVERY HORSES

AND UP-TO-DATE RIGS . . .

Also experienced land guides with teams.

We have fancy teams with Bike or Surrey wagons for those wanting to drive for pleasure.

Don't forget to call on us, and if further information is desired write us and your enquiries will be answered by return mail.

W. R. HAYWARD, Prop.

NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS

HUGH H. COLLINS

Merchant Tailor

Has always on hand a beautiful line of Suitings, Pantings and Overcoatings for all seasons.

Everything up-to-date. Garments cut in the right style. Fit guaranteed. Workmanship perfect. One trial will satisfy you that we do things right.

Cheapest House in Alberta

First St. South, . . Vermilion, Alta.

VERMILION HOTEL

JAS. D. BUXTON, Manager

Management Up-to-date, and is a Popular Resort of the Travelling Public.



Everything is of the best, the Cuisine being especially excellent. Rates, $1.00 and $1.50

Vermilion, - - - Alberta

cattle feeding upon the green foot hills and thousands of fine horses which have never been under shelter.

At various places where we have stopped the citizens have brought to our cars great bunches of sweet peas, pansies and verbenas which would delight the hearts of our flower-raising women in the States. Roses are still in bloom in places and there is a bewildering profusion of petunias, nasturtiums and geraniums—and all of remarkable brilliance

At intervals along the railroads are located fine towns and cities, and they are far from being backwood places. Unlike our ramshackle new towns in the States, these Canadian towns are started up on modern lines and by up to-date, progressive people. Here one finds hotels that would put to shame the best to be seen in Indiana. Up here "behind the moon" we find the women beautifully dressed—peek-a-boo waists, white shoes and all that: the men wearing Panama hats, and many of them speeding over the broad avenues in their own big touring cars, or driving high-stepping trotters in rubber-tired runabouts

One is particularly struck by the fine hotels in even the small towns. These are generally built of either brick or stone. This is accounted for by the fact that in Canada there are no saloons aside from hotels, and no license is granted unless the hotel is in a good and commodious building. The bars close at 7 o'clock in the evening and there is no side door subterfuge

In Canada people do not dodge or evade the law with impunity. On the contrary they respect and obey it Never have I seen such universal regard for the majesty of the law and such popular support of it. Even the small villages have their boards of trade "for the promotion of trade and the preservation of law and order.

Sabbath observance in Canada is a reality, not a laughing stock. Drug stores and eating houses are allowed to do business on the day of rest, but everything else is closed up tight. The people are a church going people and fine houses of worship are seen everywhere. The church is not afraid to declare its enmity to the saloon, and the saloon power has wholesome respect for the Christian element

In all these new towns the church gets on the ground as soon as the saloon and gives no quarter. This is in encouraging contrast to the conditions in our border towns of America, where the saloon and the gambling hell are usually the first places of attraction to the new settler

The Canadians are better acquainted with our laws and institutions than we are with theirs and it unwillingly driven to it in argument show many points of superiority in their methods of lawmaking to those of the States. They say we have too many laws and enforce too few. Yet they greatly admire us and want to be neighborly and have a better understanding between our two nations.

The English atmosphere is everywhere, a feature of life here which was a complete surprise to me. The round full tone of the voices of the people would proclaim their ancestry even were the unquestioned loyalty to the King not so universally manifest Scotch, Irish and Welsh are here in great numbers, and great parties of colonists from Britain arrive nearly every week

The government takes good care of the immigrants who come to Canada, a feature which our government would do well to emulate. At all the larger towns immigration buildings are located. Here the "tenderfoot" is quartered on his arrival, and he is well housed until he selects a homestead or finds employment. In this way privation is prevented and the new citizen is protected from sharks who might otherwise cheat the eyes out of him before he got settled.

These Canadians profess to be great admirers of the Americans, as they call us of the United States, and say the best settlers they get come across their southern boundary.

Wherever we have gone the people have received us with unfeigned cordiality. Hospitality is the quality of these people to which I would give greatest emphasis. Warm hearted and generous, they have put to shame our Pennsylvania idea of hospitality, and have made us at times really uncomfortable by showers of unexpected kindness

Of the many rich experiences at the various points of our itinerary, of the broad, fertile plains and beautiful mountains which we have crossed, of the fine towns and cities which entertained us; of the fine farms and ranches which can be obtained here almost for the asking, much remains to be written. I have endeavored here to give my impressions of this fair land and its people as they occur to me at this time.



Hayward's Livery Barn

VERMILION VALLEY'S BIG YIELD

EASTON SUNDAY CALL: Lunch was had at noon at Vermilion in the open air on the border of the Vermilion valley, that is to day just as the white man found it We found wild raspberries and cream among the good things provided

We are now in Alberta, a district noted for its healthfulness

The summers are delightful. The days are long and warm, with abundant sunshine, and the nights pleasantly cool. The warm weather lasts until October. The fall is also a most enjoyable season, dry and bracing, with days of bright sunshine and frosty nights.

The Vermilion valley was given the palm last year for yield, having 50 bushels of wheat and 100 bushels of oats to the acre

A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT'S TRIBUTE

Like all so called "districts in the Canadian Northwest the one of which the progressive town of Vermilion is centre has an immense reach To Chipman on the west, where the country tributary to Edmonton is met, it is 85 miles. Eastward it extends to Blackfoot, 30 miles, where the Lloydminster district is overlapped. Toward the south there is a grand sweep of 50 miles to Dusty Lake, where the Wetaskiwin branch of the C. & E. road has brought settlers from the south, and northward over 40 miles to the Saskatchewan.

Throughout this block, 160 miles square, there is scarcely a quarter section of unproductive land. There is timber and coal and water in abundance. The cost of fuel in many cases is represented by an hour's drive to the coal banks, which crop out on the surface along the creeks and valleys.

ALL ABOUT VERMILION

CLAYSVILLE RECORD: For luncheon we stopped at Vermilion. The people had raised a fund for the event. We have towns of rapid growth in Washington county, but here where the open prairie existed nine months ago, is today a busy town with three-storey business buildings and the citizens ready to incorporate. As in other towns the streets ar very wide. The usual water tower is found in nearly all of them for fire protection and unlike Claysville and Canonsburg the insurance rate is in keeping with fire protection. The public buildings are erected for the future, not the present merely, and are therefore very creditable for towns of their size. The newspaper of the town is the Vermilion Signal. Its editor extended the welcome recounting the best the town had to offer and it is certainly a fine town for its age. Such a baby town, full of enterprise

GO TO CANADA

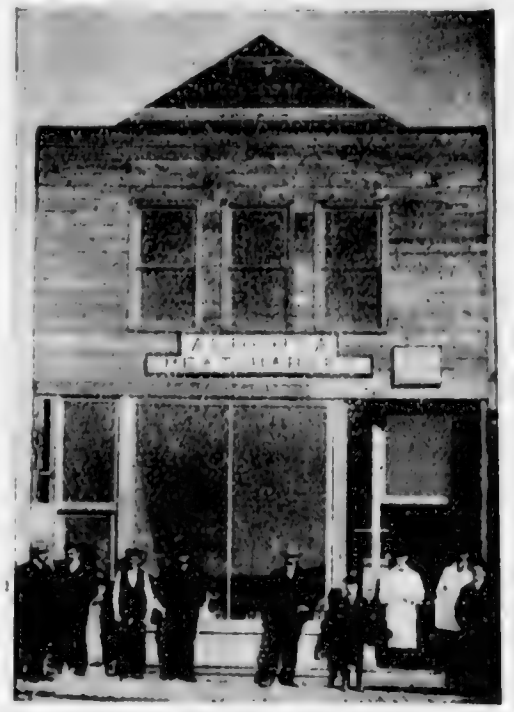
PEN ARGYL INDEX:—Column upon column could be written upon the wonderful possibilities awaiting those who have the courage to grasp them in the vast domain of Canada

To the young man who seeks adventure and the hope of fortune we say, go to Canada

A WOMAN'S TESTIMONY

MRS. G. W. SHORTRIDGE, a recent arrival in Alberta from Michigan, U.S.A., gives her views on the Vermilion country to her home paper in a letter from which the following extracts are taken:

I had the impression before I came here that as soon as winter came people would all hover around their stoves,



The Alberta Meat Market

not daring to move out for fear of freezing, but I have not seen a day so far, that they have not been out the same as in Michigan, and although it has been 16 degrees below zero, it has not been cold. Children play out, coasting and skating all the time. "Alberta frost and sunshine" people say here and it's a good description, for everything will be covered with frost in the morning and when the sun comes out it is just beautiful. If people here made provision for winter as Michigan people do there could be very little complaint about the cold.

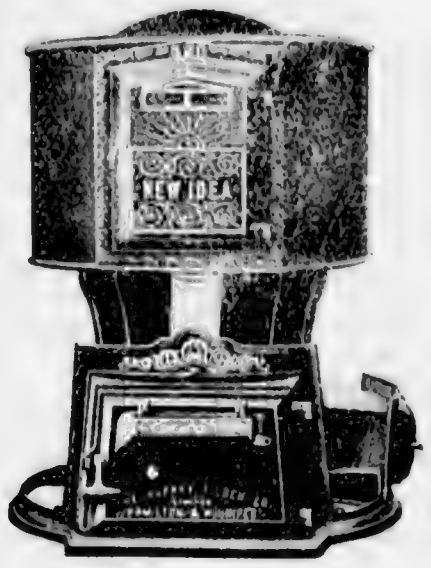
Butter is 35 cents per pound and for no reason than they had rather buy than make it, for there are plenty of cows on the ranches and it costs so little to feed them. Hay for winter can be had by cutting and drawing it and the hay here is rich, good food. Cattle all are nice and fat. Ranchers even buy butter when they have from 10 to 50 cows, and some even buy milk at 10 cents per quart. Eggs are 40 cents for the same reason.

There is plenty of good land here yet but it's going fast and it only costs $10 to file on 160 acres. Plenty of good water, so it is the very best kind of a place to raise cattle and sheep. Vegetables grow to an enormous size. This would be a great place for a sugar beet factory, for beets would grow with little expense. Plenty of wild strawberries, raspberries, currants, cranberries and all kind of fruit trees grow that have been tried

This certainly will be a fine country in a very short time. A good dairy or poultry farm here would be the best kind of an investment

The air is so pure and bracing I don't see how people can help hustling and there is such a chance here to do so many things successfully. Everyone here has better health and such appetites. Three families came here from Marlette, Michigan, six months ago and they are nice people. They like it very much and all have better health than in Michigan. **This is certainly a healthy, nice country, where any man can get a good home and not have to work hard, either.**

HOWARD & LAW



VERMILION'S
LEADING
PLUMBING
HEATING
AND
TIN SHOP

Steam and Hot Water Heating a Specialty

Estimates cheerfully given and all Work guaranteed

MAIN STREET, - VERMILION, ALTA.

Blackfoot Ranch

36-49-5

SADDLE HORSES

BROOD MARES

STANDARD BRED &
HACKNEY HORSES

SHIRE STALLION

EMILE A. DELTOMBE, Proprietor

Where Cash Counts !

. . THE . .

WESTERN CANADA TRADING
Company's Big Store

COMPLETE HOMESTEADERS' OUTFITTERS

Dry Goods, Boots & Shoes
Farm Implements
Groceries Hardware

First St. South, Vermilion, Alta.

WHITE ROBIN
PHARMACY
P.O. BLOCK in Sunny Vermilion

Physicians' Prescriptions & Family Recipes carefully dispensed.

Although most people are healthy and require very little Drugs or Medicines, we will be pleased to supply your wants in

TOILET ARTICLES

Such as Perfumery, Toilet Waters, Hair Dressings, Talcum Powders, Fine Soaps, Hair, Tooth and Flesh Brushes, Combs, Traveling Cases, Wallets, Purses, Rubber Goods, Hot Water Bottles, Ice Bags, Syringes, Feeders, Nipples, Tubing, Etc.

And Gents with a Good Pipe or Fine Cigar

We pay special attention to fitting

EYE GLASSES & SPECTACLES

Lenses (Spherical, Bifocal or Compound) fitted in all styles of frames or bridges as required, so you will be able to see the beauties of the country or enjoy your evening paper or magazine.

Garden and Flower Seeds, Fresh and Good

ED. J. KIBBLEWHITE, Chemist & Optician
PROPRIETOR

F. BUCKLE

Hardware, Tinware

Graniteware, Paints

Oils, Stoves, Etc. . .

Large and Complete Stock of First-class Shelf and Heavy Hardware always on hand.

THE MAIN ST. HARDWARE
THAT DOES THE BUSINESS
ALL THE TIME

Opposite Town Hall

VERMILION - - ALBERTA

Some Representative Citizens

Harry Bowtell

One of the first men to locate in Vermilion was H. Bowtell. Mr. Bowtell came to the West as a boy from the vicinity of Collingwood, Ont. His father located on land near Lacombe in the province of Alberta. Here he grew to manhood and incidentally acquired that resourcefulness and readiness to engage in any sort of enterprise that turns up characteristic of the West. In the winter of 1900, Mr. Bowtell was engaged in freighting and made a trip through the Vermilion district. He was so attracted by the appearance of the country that he returned in the spring of 1901 to take up a location some three miles east of where the town of Vermilion now stands. At that time there were between Bresaylor, 50 miles west of Battleford, and Birch Lake, a distance of 110 miles, but one or two settlers.

For two or three years Mr. Bowtell acted as government and scrip agent in the district and located a large number of settlers. After securing his patent Mr. Bowtell moved into Vermilion and opened an office, being one of the first men on the new townsite. When the Dominion government created the sub-land agency, Mr. Bowtell was appointed agent, a position which he resigned last year to accept the more responsible one of homestead inspector for the district.

Mr. Bowtell last year married Miss Emma McClenaghan, a daughter of Mr. H. McClenaghan, a pioneer in the government telegraph service of the West.

While a strong Liberal in politics, his unfailing good nature and sterling qualities make him one the most popular officials in the territory between Battleford and Edmonton with the men on both sides of politics.

Mr. Bowtell has driven over every part of the district and his thorough knowledge of the particular merits of each section of the country makes his assistance invaluable to the man who is seeking a location, and this he is always ready to give. Vermilion is fortunate in numbering Mr. Bowtell among her citizens.

Mayor Brimacombe.

M. A. Brimacombe is also one of Vermilion's pioneers. He settled in 1902 on land east of the present townsite. In 1905 he moved into Vermilion and with his brothers John and M. G. Brimacombe, engaged in the stationery business. When Vermilion was made a village Mr. Brimacombe was unanimously elected overseer and in the following fall upon its incorporation as a town, he was continued in office as mayor, to which position he was re-elected in December last. Mr. Brimacombe is postmaster and government land agent. He is a man of sterling worth, thoroughly imbued with the western spirit of enterprise, and that Vermilion occupies the prominent position that she does today is largely owing to his active participation in all matters tending to promote her early progress and his unbounded confidence in her future.

Mr. Brimacombe, an Englishman by birth, spent many years in Ontario and Manitoba before coming to Alberta. He has thoroughly identified [illegible]

Pioneer Ranchmen

Among the earliest settlers in the Vermilion district are George C. Powell, James Common, Evans and Playne, Steele and McLaren, W. J. Rutherford and E. D. Potvin. These men were attracted to the district through its superiority as a stock raising country.

Mr. Powell originally came from Nebraska though he has ranched in Washington and Montana and has been a stockman all his life. A picture of his ranch in the Vermilion valley appears elsewhere in this issue. He has been very successful here and believes that the district has no superior as a cattle country.

Mr. Common, originally an Englishman, came to America as a small boy. He lived for many years in the state of Illinois, and moved to Alberta in 1898. He came to Vermilion from Strathcona, and has since been ranching in the Vermilion valley, west of town. He states that it is the best cattle country he has ever seen.

Messrs. Evans and Playne are both Englishmen. They are also among the successful pioneer ranchmen of the district.

W. J. Rutherford is a native of Ontario. He came to Vermilion district some eight or nine years ago and has since been engaged continuously in the ranching business, west of town. He also owns the Alberta meat market, a cut of which appears on another page. Mr. Rutherford is a successful business man, public spirited and popular and always ready to assist in keeping Vermilion to the fore.

E. D. Potvin, another successful rancher of the district, settled east of town several years ago. He has given a good deal of attention to dairying, as well as to the raising of cattle.

H. N. Stephens

One of the first of Vermilion's leading business men to locate on the present townsite was H. N. Stephens, of Stephens Brothers, general merchants. Mr. Stephens' original store was a rough board building, 20x24 feet, on one of the streets in the west end. In September, 1905, he began excavating on the site of his present premises on Main Street, [illegible] corner of Bruyea Avenue. The original building was [illegible]. A year later the firm [illegible] to its present quarters. [illegible] the largest general stores in Vermilion, [illegible] two floors and basement. The [illegible] the finest in the town. It is the firm's intention to veneer the building this year in brick [illegible]

W. J. Macnab

Another of Vermilion's pioneer merchants is W. J. Macnab, who [illegible] in September, 1905, with his family and began business as a general merchant a few days after a stock which [illegible]. Within a very short time he was obliged to procure more accommodation, which he did by erecting a small frame building [illegible] original one. In the summer of 1906 Mr. Macnab's business had [illegible] he erected a fine modern, metal-faced structure of two storeys, 30x60 feet, with a commodious basement. In February of last year, Mr. Macnab disposed of his stock to other merchants in town and rented the store premises to W. F. H. Thompson, who was previously located on Railway Street. As a merchant Mr. Macnab was very successful and he had an able assistant in Mrs. Macnab. Although he is no longer a dealer in merchandise, Mr. Macnab continues to make Vermilion his home and will in the future give his attention to real estate and investments. He is one of the public-spirited and popular men of the place and served on Vermilion's first town council.

Craig Brothers

One of the first men to be impressed with Vermilion and to act upon that impression was W. C. Craig, who [illegible] Alberta not [illegible] It did not take [illegible] not one but a number of [illegible] stores. With [illegible] Craig Bros. [illegible] Street and [illegible] ings in Vermilion [illegible] Stephens Bros. [illegible] Craig Bros. [illegible] Thompson [illegible] size. Craig Bros. [illegible]

W. F. H. Thompson

[illegible] in the history of Vermilion [illegible] Price & Finch [illegible] They erected a building on [illegible] opposite the C. N. R. yards. This was in the fall of 1905. In the following spring W. F. H. Thompson [illegible] Vermilion [illegible] over the [illegible] that he received a [illegible] Queen and shortly afterwards [illegible] by which he acquired the stock and [illegible] of Price & Finch. After [illegible] business, Mr. Thompson [illegible]

stock, greatly increased his space and built up a large trade. A year ago he found his business premises still too cramped and arranged for an extended lease of the large store on the corner of First Street South and Alberta Avenue, built the fall before by W. J. Macnab, who was about selling out. Mr. Thompson is enterprising and energetic and his business is one of the largest in the place.

Western Canada Trading Company

The Western Canada Trading Company is one of the big merchandising houses of Vermilion. Those forming the company are Walter Gibson, H. W. Brown, Joseph McKone, A. C. Brown and J. H. Davidson, Mr. Gibson being president and H. W. Brown managing director. They commenced business in Vermilion in 1905. They carry a large stock and their store premises cover a space of 80 feet frontage on First Street South by 60 feet in depth, with a large basement and a second storey. The members of the firm are among Vermilion's best citizens and they take an active interest in everything relating to the welfare of the town. Mr. H. W. Brown is a member of the town council and last year made an energetic president of the board of trade, while to Mr. McKone is largely due the credit for the creation of the very efficient fire brigade possessed by Vermilion.

The Medical Profession

The medical profession is represented in Vermilion by Dr. G. H. W. Ryan and Dr. H.L. Burris, the former a native of Quebec and the latter of Nova Scotia. Dr. Ryan is a graduate of McGill and Dr. Burris of Toronto University. Both are pioneers of the place, coming to Vermilion in 1905, and both are very successful practitioners. Dr. Ryan is a member of the town council, while Dr. Burris is the town's health officer. Both take a great interest in public affairs and no two men in town are more popular or respected.

E. T. Cunningham, V. S.

Dr. E. T. Cunningham, a graduate of Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto, located in Vermilion in 1906, having come from Weyburn, Sask., and has built up a good practice. Dr. Cunningham takes an active interest in public affairs, is an enthusiastic horseman and deservedly popular.

F. V. West, D. S.

Dr. F. V. West, dental surgeon, is one of the pioneers, having opened an office in town in 1905. Like nearly all the town's citizens he is public-spirited and has done his part in advancing the town's interests. He has filled a number of important public offices. Dr. West enjoys a good practice in his profession.

G. E. Hayward and Fred C. Long

Fred. C. Long, pioneer druggist, first established himself in business in town in a tent in the fall of 1905. At that time the name of the firm was the Hayward & Long Company, and besides drugs and fancy goods the firm dealt in lumber. About a year ago the partnership was dissolved. Mr. Long continued the drug business and Mr. Hayward took over the other branch. Both are successful business men. In addition to drugs, Mr. Long carries a large stock of books, stationery, wall paper, druggists' sundries, leather goods and novelties of all sorts, and has one of the best stores in the West. Mr. Hayward has a splendidly-equipped lumberyard and does a large trade. Both take an interest in public affairs and are among Vermilion's most successful merchants. Mr. Long is an officer in the local lodge of Oddfellows, while Mr. Hayward fills the post of secretary of Vermilion Lodge, A.F. & A.M.

W. J. Rutherford

W. J. Rutherford, as has been noted elsewhere in this issue, is one of the pioneer ranchmen of the district and also one of the town's prominent business men, being proprietor of the Alberta Meat Market. He has shipped to the Winnipeg market from this point some of the best beef steers that ever came out of the West. Mr. Rutherford takes an active interest in public matters and is one of Vermilion's solid business men.

W. Telford

W. Telford, wholesale liquor dealer, came to Vermilion about a year ago from Manitoba and quickly established himself among the leading business men of the place. He takes an active interest in all matters of public welfare. He is deputy chief of the fire brigade and an enthusiastic curler. He is one of the town's most popular citizens.

J. B. Sanborn

J. B. Sanborn, of J. B. Sanborn & Company, dealers in lumber and coal, has resided in Vermilion for two years. The firm has a well-equipped lumber yard and does a large business. Mr. Sanborn is vice-president of the board of trade and one of the town's most progressive citizens.

H. C. Stiles

H. C. Stiles, pioneer tinsmith, came from Saskatoon some two years ago. He is an experienced plumber and tinsmith and his services are always in demand. Mr. Stiles is chief ranger in the local court of Foresters, and he takes a deep interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the town.

Joseph Robinson

Joseph Robinson was one of the first real estate men to settle in the town. He has done a large business, chiefly in locating homesteaders, and has a good knowledge of the country. Mr. Robinson takes considerable interest in public affairs.

C. V. Caesar

C. V. Caesar, accountant, auditor and real estate dealer, is a man whose services are in as much demand as perhaps those of any other person in the town. Mr. Caesar is town assessor, agent for several loan companies and auditor for the Vermilion Centre School. He took an active part in the organization of the creamery company and has engineered some of the largest business deals in the place. He came from Montreal in 1906 and has taken an active part in matters of public concern. A photo of Mr. Caesar's pretty home appears on another page.

Alberta Land Company

The Alberta Land Company is composed of R. G. Dunsmore and J. H. Foster, formerly of Neepawa, Man. They do a large business in farm implements and machinery and also in real estate. Mr. Dunsmore takes much interest in public matters and is a member of the town council. He is also an enthusiastic sportsman. The firm is one of Vermilion's most enterprising and progressive.

John Thomson

John Thomson, Vermilion's pioneer flour, feed and implement dealer, last year sold out his former line of business to devote his attention entirely to supplying the needs of the farmers in machinery. He built a large warehouse on the corner of First Street North and Bulyea Avenue, where, as will be noted from his advertisement in another column, he carries an extensive stock of the best makes of farm implements, vehicles, engines and other machinery. Mr. Thomson is an old resident of the West and has a thorough knowledge of what is best adapted to the needs of the prairie farmer, and his experience is always at the service of his customers. He takes a strong interest in the affairs of the agricultural society and is an enthusiastic champion of Alberta in general and the Vermilion district in particular.

W. F. Raddatz

W. F. Raddatz is another of Vermilion's solid business men. He has been in business in the bull's eye for more than two years and is therefore entitled to be reckoned among the pioneers, and his shop on First Street South is at all times one of the busiest spots in town. In addition to being a business man in the strict sense of the word, Mr. Raddatz takes an active part in all public affairs and his excellent voice makes him much in demand in the musical circles in the town. He is one of Vermilion's most popular and respected citizens.

Isaiah Winters

Isaiah Winters, proprietor of the Vermilion Harness Shop, has been some two years in town, having come to Vermilion from Dundalk, Ont. Mr. Winters does a large business in supplying the district's needs in harness and saddlery. Nothing but first-class work ever leaves his shop. His prices are reasonable and intending settlers will further their own interests by purchasing their outfits from him, rather than bringing them from the East. Mr. Winters belongs to the class of men who are making Vermilion known far and near as one of the most solid and progressive towns in the West.

A. F. Armstrong

A. F. Armstrong, proprietor of the Vermilion Cement Block Works and lessee of the skating rink, came to Vermilion a year ago from Parry Sound, Ont. With the manufacture of cement blocks, another was added to Vermilion's industries and the venture should prove the success which the enterprise and energy of its founder deserves.

W. R. Hayward

W. R. Hayward, proprietor of the Vermilion Livery, started business in Vermilion early in its history in a small way and has now one of the largest barns and best equipments of stock and vehicles in any town in the country. The growth of Mr. Hayward's livery is but another instance of the success achieved by hard work and attention to business in this young land of opportunity.

The Pilkie Family

Among the earliest residents of the town are the Pilkie family, who settled in the neighborhood some four years ago. P. G. Pilkie, the head of the family, is the present chairman of the school board and secretary-treasurer of the agricultural society. He is also a dealer in lumber and coal. R. A. Pilkie, the eldest son, owns the splendid property adjoining the original C. N. R. townsite which is advertised in this issue. He is also a member, with his brothers, W. P. and Chas. H., of the pioneer firm of general merchants, Pilkie Brothers, which does one of the largest businesses in the place.

The Pilkies are a musical family, Mrs. P. G. Pilkie having been a well-known vocalist in the East before coming to Alberta, and her daughter, Miss Bessie Pilkie, and the brothers all possess excellent voices. No entertainment in the town is complete at which one or more members of this talented family do not sing. They are among the town's most respected citizens.

W. A. Campbell

W. A. Campbell, whose advertisement appears on the cover of this issue, is a prominent Winnipeg real estate man who was early attracted to the Vermilion district by its superiority as a field for settlement. The company of which he is Canadian manager secured a large tract of the most desirable land in the district north and east of Vermilion, of which many fine sections have been disposed of to actual settlers. Mr. Campbell takes an active interest in matters pertaining to the town and country.

Howard & Law

Howard & Law, plumbers and tinsmiths, established themselves in the town in 1906 and their firm is now one of the busiest in the place. They are experts in their line and their services are in demand not only locally but in the towns east and west along the C.N.R. The firm recently installed heating plants in a number of fine modern residences built last year in Battleford. They are among the progressive men of the town.

A. J. Dimmell

A. J. Dimmell, pioneer tailor of the Bull's Eye, moved into the substantial building erected by him on Alberta Avenue shortly after his arrival two years ago, where he enjoys a good trade. Mr. Dimmell takes an active interest in all public affairs especially along the line of sport, being an enthusiastic curler and a member of the local football and baseball clubs.

H. H. Collins

H. H. Collins, merchant tailor, came to the town last year and has firmly established himself in its business circles. As has been noted elsewhere in this issue, Mr. Collins is bandmaster of the citizens' band and he has been very active in assisting to supply Vermilionites with good musical entertainment. In this he has been ably seconded by his son, J. A. Collins, first cornetist in the band. Mr. Collins is a decided acquisition to the town.

McClinton Brothers

The McClinton Brothers came to Vermilion in 1906 and purchased the business known as the Model Bakery. Last year one of the brothers, W. H. McClinton, bought out the flour and feed store of John Thomson, in connection with which he installed a chopping mill this winter. The Model Bakery is now conducted by R. J. McClinton. Both these young men are enterprising, energetic and public-spirited and have established themselves among the town's successful merchants.

C. E. Slater

One of the most attractive jewelry stores in any new town in the West is that of C. E. Slater. Mr. Slater came from Winnipeg nearly two years ago, bringing with him a very fine stock of jewelry, silverware and fancy goods. He has done a good business, not only locally but with the people of adjacent towns. He is secretary of the Liberal association and an enthusiastic curler, being president of the local curling club. He is the proud possessor of a number of trophies captured in recent years at the big Winnipeg bonspiel.

J. G. Arthur

J. G. Arthur, a prominent settler of the district, is an Australian by birth, who settled north of the town two years ago and has actively identified himself with the agricultural interests of the country. Mr. Arthur is a progressive man and a decided acquisition as an importer of pure-bred stock. He is president of the local creamery association, secretary of the farmers' association and a director of the agricultural society.

J. A. Roseborough

J. A. Roseborough is the local manager of the extensive business of the Massey-Harris company. He came from Dundalk, Ont., some three years ago and settled on the Vermilion River, west of town, where he has a fine herd of pure-bred shorthorn cattle. Mr. Roseborough is prominent in masonic circles, having been the first master of Vermilion Lodge A.F. & A.M.

O. Baker & Sons

O. Baker & Sons are another of the town's solid business firms. Their substantial business premises are located on First Street South facing the park. The senior member of the firm was one of the first town councilors.

A. D. Carmichael

A. D. Carmichael, real estate dealer, came to the town about a year ago from Woodville, Ontario. In addition to selling land, Mr. Carmichael is interested in a sheep ranch near town. He is an ardent champion of the superiority of the Vermilion district.

R. J. McCue

R. J. McCue, proprietor of the Alberta Hotel, is a pioneer of the province, having come west as a boy. For many years Mr. McCue followed stock-raising in the country south of Edmonton, but latterly he has been engaged in the hotel business in Ponoka and Vermilion. Mr. McCue is a liberal contributor to all public enterprises and one of the most popular men in Central Alberta. The Alberta enjoys a large share of public patronage.

The Legal Profession

The legal profession has two representatives, Norman Murray, B.A., LL. B., and H. V. Fieldhouse, B.A., LL.B. Mr. Murray, who is a native of Halifax, N. S., arrived in town in 1905, almost with the railroad, and has built up a good practice. He has taken an active part in public affairs, being a member of the school board and town solicitor and secretary-treasurer. Mr. Murray served in a Canadian contingent in South Africa during the Boer War and will be one of the officers of the squadron of mounted rifles now being formed.

H. V. Fieldhouse came from Neepawa, Manitoba, two years ago and settled down to the practice of law. Mr. Fieldhouse takes a prominent part in public affairs, being president of the District Liberal Association and secretary of the school board. Last year he was also secretary-treasurer of the board of trade. He is identified with the Alberta Siche Gas Company, a local corporation which supplies the town with light, and the rink company, as well as vice-president of the curling club. Mr. Fieldhouse is one of the busiest men in town.

F. Buckle

F. Buckle is one of the most successful of the town's business men. He came to the town some two years ago and opened a store on Main Street, where by strict attention to business he has built up a big trade.

Hunt Brothers

Hunt Bros., Main Street, are among the newest of the town's business men. They carry a large stock of hardware and furniture and do a good share of the local trade.

S. H. Roseborough

S.H. Roseborough of the firm of Roseborough & Co., located on a homestead near the town, some three years ago and a little later established himself in the jewelry business which he has since successfully conducted. He carries a fine stock of jewelry, china, silverware, cut glass and smokers' goods. Mr. Roseborough is an active member of several fraternal orders.

W. A. Reid

W. A. Reid, one of the leading stockmen of the district, was brought up in the province of Alberta. He came from Lacombe about two years ago and located on land south of town. He is a successful farmer and stock dealer and an expert horseman. Mr. Reid served in the Canadian Mounted Rifles in South Africa during the Boer War and will command the squadron now being organized here. He takes an active interest in public affairs and is popular with all classes.

PILKIE BROTHERS

The Pioneer Store

VERMILION, - ALTA.



Come and see the Boys

South of the Track

THE

Vermilion Harness Shop

First Street South

HARNESS MADE TO ORDER

Full line of Light and Heavy Harness,
Stock Saddles, Ladies' Saddles,
Robes, Trunks, Valises,
Blankets, Whips and Gloves.
All varieties of Horse Furnishings.

REPAIRING A SPECIALTY

I. WINTERS

Proprietor

You Are Always Welcome

At ROSEBOROUGH'S
JEWELRY STORE

Even if it is only to ask the correct time

We are pleased to show our Goods
and give you our prices

Our stock consists of reliable makes of
Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware,
Cut Glass and Fine China

OUR MOTTO:
Honest Workmanship and Correct
Methods in the Repair Shop

Roseborough & Co., Watchmakers & Jewelers

VERMILION, ALTA.

W. TELFORD

Wholesale Liquor Dealer

A Large Stock of the Choicest
WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS
constantly on hand.

Edmonton and Strathcona Beers,
Bass's Ale, Guinness's Stout,
and Pabst and Schlitz
American Lagers

First Street South

VERMILION - - ALBERTA

A Page of Adventure

It fell in the quiet night,
There was never a sound to ken,
But all of the woods to the right and the left
Lay filled with the painted men.
Robert Louis Stevenson.

WHILE the whole of the Saskatchewan valley, of which the Vermilion district forms a part, is very properly regarded as a new country, because up to within a few years ago only a very small fraction of the earth's population had ever heard of it and its people were still the redmen, yet it is as old as most of the other portions of the globe's surface, and, as has been intimated elsewhere in this issue, it is not without an historic past.

It was the Cree who gave to the Battle River its martial designation; it was the "Nootendo Seepee"— the Fighting River—of that powerful and warlike nation, and the names bestowed by their scouts and war parties upon the many well-known landmarks, hills and streams along its course each has its romantic and historic significance. For instance, there is to the southeast of Vermilion a high, rolling country now known as the Blackfoot Hills. The name has no special meaning to the stranger in the land, but ask a Cree what he calls it and he will answer: "Neeanan Kahnipahate—The Place Where Five were Killed," and you conjure up a picture of a bloody tragedy, and immediately the ground, with its lofty, thicketed slopes and wooded valleys, takes on and possesses for you for ever afterward a separate and distinctive interest

Let me go back a couple of decades to a day when the country was still more the redman's land than the white's and refer briefly to a tragedy of comparatively recent date. It was known as the Frog Lake Massacre.

Frog Lake has been mentioned on the first page of this number. It is a fine body of fresh water, lying six miles north of the Saskatchewan River and about forty miles northeast of Vermilion. The territory surrounding it is included in a number of Indian reservations. In April, 1885, there was a small settlement at Frog Lake composed of the government Indian agency, the Hudson's Bay Company's trading post, a Roman Catholic mission and two or three "free traders." I was at that date clerk in charge of the Hudson's Bay Company's post at Frog Lake. Before daybreak on the morning of the 2nd of April in that year, the Indians of Big Bear's band of Plain Crees, armed and painted, entered the settlement, made us all prisoners in our beds and before noon had shot down in cold blood every white man in the place except myself. To the fact that I was in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company for which corporation, due doubtless to their long years of association, the Indians have always had considerable respect—I owe my life. I was a prisoner until the 1st of June and made my escape when General Strange, with the Alberta Field Force, engaged and routed the Indians at Frenchman's Butte, east of Fort Pitt.

Let me here introduce a sketch which I wrote some years ago regarding an incident which occurred while I was a captive in Big Bear's camp, so that the new population may contrast conditions as they are today with those of only twenty short years ago and realize the advancement that this country has made in that time.

Fort Pitt was a stockaded Hudson's Bay Company's post situated on a flat on the north bank of the Saskatchewan river, 35 miles east of Frog Lake. In April, 1885, it held, besides the Hudson's Bay Company's officials, a handful of settlers and missionaries who had fled for safety to the Fort upon hearing of the massacre at Frog Lake, and a detachment of twenty North-West Mounted Police under Captain Francis J. Dickens, third son of the famous novelist. An attack on the Fort was anticipated, and three men had been sent by Dickens on a scouting expedition to Frog Lake to ascertain what the Indians were doing. The story of their adventures follows:



On the Saskatchewan near Fort Pitt

On the afternoon of an April day in 1885, one of those glowing Spring days that never grow commonplace, but are a perpetual recurring delight to all the weary, waiting world, a band of over four hundred savages, plumed and blood-drunken, looked down menacingly from the crest of the high, sloping bench, a long rifle shot behind, upon the handful of Mounted Police and settlers gathered within the little group of buildings nestling beside the Saskatchewan called Fort Pitt. Through the camp of the Indians wound a trail, and a mile away among the aspen bluffs, glancing attentively down at some fresh hoof-prints in the mud of this same trail, over which they were slowly riding, came three men, approaching the fort, or, rather, hanging between them and it, the hostile camp.

Suddenly the tallest, a dark, athletic young fellow, reined up his black stallion and, jumping down on to the trail, knelt and scrutinized it closely.

"I tell you, Cowan, I'm right!" he exclaimed at length. "The Indians are between us and the fort, and the only safe course is to cut the trail, circle around to the river and then dash down along the bank for the barracks while the Police stand off the Indians at the port-holes. How am I certain? Why, Indians don't shoe their horses, and among these hoof-prints are those of a shod horse. I put those shoes on myself; these are the tracks of my uncle's mare, which Wandering Spirit took the morning of the massacre at Frog Lake."

Corporal Cowan smiled—a superior sort of smile.

"Quinn, you're a coward," he said. "True, Indians' mounts are not shod, but those of the Police are. They have been out from the fort during the day, driving in the stock. Why, didn't we see the whole camp at Frog Lake still?"

"I'm not a coward, corporal!" retorted Quinn. "You're in command, and if you're so eager to wear another stripe, you'll find I can go anywhere you dare. Only remember that although we saw tents, we didn't see any Indians to speak of. It made our eyes blur to check off a dozen about the camp and I don't believe that even they were bucks. They came down the trail—the fighting men, I mean—as we went out from Pitt along the river, and left their lodges at the lake in charge of the women. Won't you see?" He paused a moment, then in a low, set tone he said: "What ever may be the outcome of taking such senseless risks, you know to whom the credit will be due, Cowan. Come on!"

He struck his horse's flanks sharply with his big spurs, then jerked him back on his haunches and, turning, added earnestly, with his dark eyes on the others: "And for God's sake, come quick!"

The three riders burst upon the In-

dian view. There was a wild cry of "Shemoginusuk! Shemoginusuk! (Soldiers! Soldiers!)"; a wild scurrying to and fro—a fusilade!

The scouts had almost reached the crest of the hill, when—what demon entered into the brute that Cowan rode and made him stop at this deadly juncture and buck? He tried in vain to send him ahead, cutting his sides cruelly with the sharp spurs, then leaped to the ground and ran. He passed over the brow of the hill; the fort and safety were in his eye. An Indian raced beside him, his gun leveled at Cowan.

"Do not shoot, my brother!" pleaded Cowan, and the warrior turned and left him. But immediately from a near bluff there rose a puff of smoke, and with a bullet through the heart, poor Cowan pitched his length along the dusty trail.

Loasby was galloping down the slope towards the fort. Close behind, cool, brave, sagacious, a human hawk with flapping pinion of soiled white blanket, on the powerful white racer that unaccountably left the stable of his Yankee owner one dark night in Montana, moved the Lone Man. A report rang in Loasby's ears; the saddle seemed suddenly to have grown hot. Yet he rode on—for life. . . . Another report! His horse halted; swayed unsteadily. Lone Man was close behind—too close. The chest of the white racer landed like a hammer on the hip of the policeman's stricken mount, and down they went, rolling over and over in inextricable confusion, the dying animal and the living, falcon redskin and wounded trooper.

Loasby was first on his feet. He did not stay to look round, but flew. The Lone Man rose on one knee, and at the sharp crack of his rifle the trooper's face met the earth.

And now a patter of lead came at the intrepid savage from the fort. But he writhed forward—on his belly like a snake—until he reached the policeman. He turned him over; surely the sign manual of Death was printed upon that pale face! He cut the belt of cartridges and revolver circling the soldier's waist. Then he writhed back with it, gripping the grass in his crimsoned fingers, to his horse and galloped quickly away up the slope. And all the while the bullets from the fort, with a soft, vicious pelting, dug little holes in the earth around him.

Loasby got on his feet again. He walked slowly to the barricade thrown up between the fort buildings, turned, raised his hand to his face in a gesture of contempt towards his late pursuer, climbed up, and dropped in a death faint on the inside.

In the meantime providence had surely been looking after Quinn. He had run the gauntlet of the enemy and, bending low on the neck of the black stallion, gone off at a tangent up the river. Thirty guns, the Indians say, sent as many bullets at him as he rode down their front—a royal salute, to which he responded with a few hasty, though fortunately for himself later, ineffectual shots from his own good Winchester. He secured his horse in a poplar bluff. Fear of being taken by the sentries for a prowling redskin and shot, prevented his approaching the fort in the dark. The night he spent in a hole dug out of the river bank with his knife. And what a night! Blinding, whirling, freezing snow—and without food or covering!

In the vague half-light of the unborn dawn he stood, dazed with cold, outside the stockade, calling for "Sergeant Martin!" The curling black head of Wandering Spirit was thrust out of an upper window of one of the fort buildings. He was the war chief, the fiercest, most red-handed of them all, the man who had killed Quinn's uncle, the Frog Lake Indian agent. The fort was in the possession of the Indians. The police had abandoned it during the evening and gone down the river in an open scow, through the great cakes of ice rushing with its turgid, angry flow.

There was another cry of "Shemoginusuk!" and a moment after Wandering Spirit was following a fresh footprint through the newly-fallen snow. It led to the cut bank of the river; there ended abruptly. The war chief, most superstitious of mortals, stood on the bank and studied long over this mystery of the vanishing footstep. Where could this special constable, the nephew of the man he had murdered, have gone? He could not solve it and presently walked on along the bank, rifle in hand and with eyes keenly searching the surroundings.

Another Indian followed the footprint from the fort to the river and stopped. Just beneath him a pair of legs was sticking out of the bank. He motioned down the river to the war chief with one hand; with a finger of the other he pointed downward. Wandering Spirit started back on a run.

"Henry," said the captor "get up." The poor, dazed scout, hiding like an ostrich, trembled, but he did not move.

"Henry," he said again sharply, "come out, quick, before Wandering Spirit comes. He shall not harm you!"

Quinn crawled from his hole and his champion threw his arm about him. The war chief walked up.

"His life is mine, Kahpaypamahchakquayo," said the other. "I have sworn a vow of brotherhood and I shall keep it. Whoever spills his blood spills mine."

The two Indians looked steadily in each other's eyes for a space, then Wandering Spirit said:

"As you wish, Nopahchass. But his rifle is forfeited to me."

"You are a wise man, Kahpaypamahchakquayo. I have known war chiefs less wise than brave, and when they faced danger they met death. It is not so with you. Take the rifle."

And Nopahchass, with his arm still around his sworn brother, turned and walked away to the fort.

"He has a charmed life!" exclaimed the braves when Quinn was brought among them. "Bullets will not pierce him. Three times he has escaped!"

And Quinn was safe.

* * * * *

Henry Quinn still lives—in St. Paul, Minnesota—and Ex-Constable Loasby holds a responsible position with the Canadian Pacific Railway in British Columbia. He wears a part of one of the Lone Man's bullets, which passed through him, in a ring on his finger.

W B. CAMERON.



Thom's Cash Store

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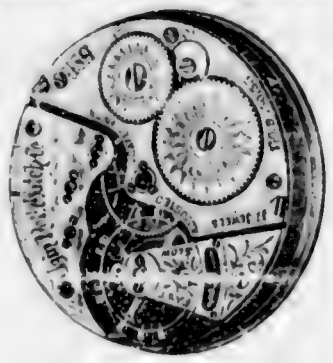
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"IF YOU GET IT AT THE MODEL BAKERY, IT'S GOOD!"

Constantly on hand:
FRESH PIES, CAKES & BUNS.
WEDDING CAKES A SPECIALTY.

Oysters, Fine Chocolates and Fruits. Fresh Ice Cream and Soda in season.

R. J. McCLINTON, Proprietor
First St. South, Vermilion

E A. Deltombe

E. A. Deltombe came from France last year and embarked in the business of horse raising in the territory southeast of Vermilion, being attracted by its superiority as a stock district. Mr Deltombe has placed a large number of valuable animals on his ranch and his enterprise must result in great benefit to the stock industry of the district.

E. J. Kibblewhite

E. J. Kibblewhite, proprietor of the White Robin pharmacy, is a comparatively recent addition to Vermilion business circles, having been located in the town about a year. In addition to drugs and medicines, Mr. Kibblewhite carries a nicely selected stock of druggist's sundries, tobacconist wares and optical goods. His business is growing steadily and he has firmly established himself in the commercial life of the town.

Brimacombe Brothers

Brimacombe Brothers, stationers, booksellers and dealers in musical instruments, carry one of the finest stocks to be found in any of the young towns in the West. The business is located in handsome quarters in the post office block and they do a large trade. The members of the firm are M. A., John, and M. G. Brimacombe and the brothers are all in one way or another identified with the institutions and affairs of the town outside their business.

Hansen and Giesebrecht

Hansen and Giesebrecht, two homesteaders near town, as will be noticed from their advertisement in this issue, have secured a steam plow and are prepared to take contracts for breaking land this spring anywhere in the district. This will be a great boon to incoming settlers who are anxious to bring substantial areas under cultivation in the shortest possible time and make their homesteads profitable.

Brunswick Hotel

The Brunswick hotel is one of the most roomy and up-to-date hostelries in the West. It has a fine office, is handsomely furnished, is equipped with bath rooms, hot and cold water, lighted by gas and furnishes an excellent table and is a favorite house with the travelling public. The obliging manager is R. H. Curry, recently of Fort Saskatchewan.

Vermilion Hotel

The Vermilion hotel was one of the first substantial buildings to be erected in Vermilion, and it has always enjoyed a good share of public patronage. The manager is J. D. Buxton, formerly of Edmonton. Mr. Buxton is a liberal subscriber to all public institutions and enterprises.

J H. Gano

The SIGNAL is indebted to J. H. Gano, the pioneer photographer of the bull's eye, for many views with which the pages of this issue are embellished. Mr. Gano's excellent photos have probably contributed as much as anything to make known the attractions of the district and the least that is due him from this paper is a grateful acknowledgement of its obligation.

Bank of Commerce

Vermilion possesses a branch of one of the strongest chartered banks in Canada—the Canadian Bank of Commerce, which has a paid-up capital of ten million dollars and a reserve fund of five millions more. The Vermilion branch was opened in the fall of 1905 under the management of A. C. Brown. The present manager is H. M. Stewart. Owing to the fact that the townsite was registered only last summer and that purchasers of town property were in consequence unable to secure titles or obtain loans on their investments and improvements, Vermilion residents have been considerably indebted to the bank for financial aid in their various enterprises.

Fire Brigade

The Vermilion Fire Brigade was organized in 1907 under the chiefship of Joseph McKone, of the Western Canada Trading Company, W. Telford being assistant chief. The brigade is entirely a volunteer organization. In view of this fact, it speaks well for the public spirit of the members—who include the leading business men of the place and their staffs—that they have brought the brigade to such a degree of efficiency that although there have been a number of fires in town since its establishment, in only one case—the recent burning of a livery barn—has the loss amounted to more than a few hundred dollars. Vermilion has good reason to be proud of her fire brigade.

Publisher's Afterword

The foregoing comprises a list of many of Vermilion's representative citizens. Some are unavoidably omitted. This is because it was impossible to extend the list further, all available space being occupied. It has been the endeavor of the publisher to make the information about Vermilion and the district as complete as possible, and if any important matter has failed to receive attention the apparent neglect may be set down as an oversight.

THE PUBLISHER.

* * *

Town Directory

MAYOR
M. A. Brimacombe

COUNCILORS
H. N. Stephens
G. H. W. Ryan
W. B. Cameron
H. W. Brown
R. G. Dunsmore
C. E. Henry

Secretary-Treasurer, Norman Murray

VERMILION CENTRE SCHOOL
P. G. Pilkie (Chairman)
Rev. A. R. Aldridge
Norman Murray
W. Bryden
W. E. Mackenzie

Secretary-Treasurer, H. V. Fieldhouse

VERMILION FIRE BRIGADE
Chief, Joseph McKone
Deputy Chief, W. Telford

BOARD OF TRADE
President, H. N. Stephens
Secretary-Treasurer, W. B. Cameron

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
P. G. Pilkie
James Common
C. E. Henry

TOWN CONSTABLE
H. C. Oakley

CITIZENS' BAND
Bandmaster, H. H. Collins
Secretary-Treasurer, J. Brimacombe

POST MASTER
M. A. Brimacombe

HOMESTEAD INSPECTOR
Harry Bowtell

DOMINION LANDS AGENT
M. A. Brimacombe

PROCESS ISSUER
Roy C. Jackson

DISTRICT BAILIFF
D. J. Berry

TELEPHONE SERVICE
M. A. Brimacombe, Local Manager

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES
Vermilion Lodge, No. 24, A.F. & A.M.
W. M., M. A. Brimacombe
Secretary, G. E. Hayward

Veritas Lodge, No. 29, I.O.O.F.
N.G., M. A. Brimacombe
Secretary, D. E. Horner

Canadian Order of Foresters
C. R., H. C. Stiles
Rec. Secy., W. H. McClinton

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
A. W. Roseborough, President
P. G. Pilkie, Secretary-Treasurer

FARMERS' ASSOCIATION
James Common, President
J.G. Arthur, Secretary-Treasurer

CREAMERY ASSOCIATION
President, J. G. Arthur
Secretary, E. Covey

CURLING CLUB
C. E. Slater, President
R. G. Dunsmore, Secretary

LOAN COMPANIES
Colonial Investment & Loan Co., (Norman Murray)
Credit Foncier F. C., (Chas. V. Caesar)

MEDICAL
Dr. G. H. W. Ryan
Dr. H. L. Burris

LEGAL
Norman Murray, B.A., LL. B.
H. V. Fieldhouse, B.A., LL. B.

CLERGY
Rev. A. R. Aldridge (Methodist)
Rev. W. Simons (Presbyterian)
Rev. W. E. Gilbert (Church of England)
Rev. H. L. Kempton (Church of Christ)

DENTAL
F. V. West, D.S.

VETERINARY SURGEON
E. T. Cunningham, V.S.

DRUGGISTS
F. C. Long
E. J. Kibblewhite

INSURANCE AGENTS
Chas. V. Caesar
Norman Murray
R. G. Dunsmore
H. V. Fieldhouse
F. V. West
J. P. Harvey
H. W. Brown

BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS
J. W. Graham
E. H. Sherwin
Alex. Eason
J. W. Parsons
Guptill & Moe

REAL ESTATE
R. A. Pilkie
Alberta Land Co
W. A. Campbell
Chas. V. Caesar
W. J. Macnab
Vermilion Townsite Co
Joseph Robinson
A. D. Carmichael

GENERAL STORES
Stephen Brothers
Craig Brothers
Western Canada Trading Co.
Pilkie Bros.
O. Baker & Sons
W. F. H Thompson

BAKERS & CONFECTIONERS
Model Bakery
Mrs. Witherbe

LAUNDRY
Vermilion Steam Laundry, Ching Wing, Prop.

HOTELS
Alberta Hotel, R. J. McCue, Prop.
Brunswick Hotel, R. H. Curry, Mgr.
Vermilion Hotel, J. D. Buxton, Mgr.

MEAT MARKET
W. J. Rutherford

HARDWARE
F. Buckle
Hunt Bros

LIVERY & FEED STABLE
W. R. Hayward

BANK
Canadian Bank of Commerce, H. M. Stewart, Manager

TAILORS
H. H, Collins
A. J. Dimmell

JEWELERS
S. H. Roseborough
C. E. Slater

RESTAURANTS
King Edward
Britannia
C. N. R. Dining Hall

NEWSPAPER
Vermilion Signal, W. B. Cameron, Editor & Publisher

WHOLESALE LIQUORS
W. Telford

BOOKS & STATIONERY
Brimacombe Bros.
F. C. Long

LUMBER & COAL
Hayward Lumber Co
J. B. Sanborn & Co
P. G. Pilkie

TINSMITHS AND PLUMBERS
H. C. Stiles
Howard & Law

FLOUR & FEED
W. H. McClinton
Pilkie Bros.
Craig Brothers

HARNESS & SADDLERY
I. Winters

FARM IMPLEMENTS
John Thomson
Alberta Land Company
Western Canada Trading Co
J. A. Roseborough

BLACKSMITHS
W. F. Raddatz
Philcox & Sims

PAINTERS
W. Bryden
Jones & Cordick

DRESS MAKER
Madame DeDelley

MILLINERY
Mrs. Yoder

SHOEMAKER
A. Snape

BARBERS
Geo. H. Benson
A. Giles
J. D. Nickell

CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY
J. R. Hinsberger, Local Agent

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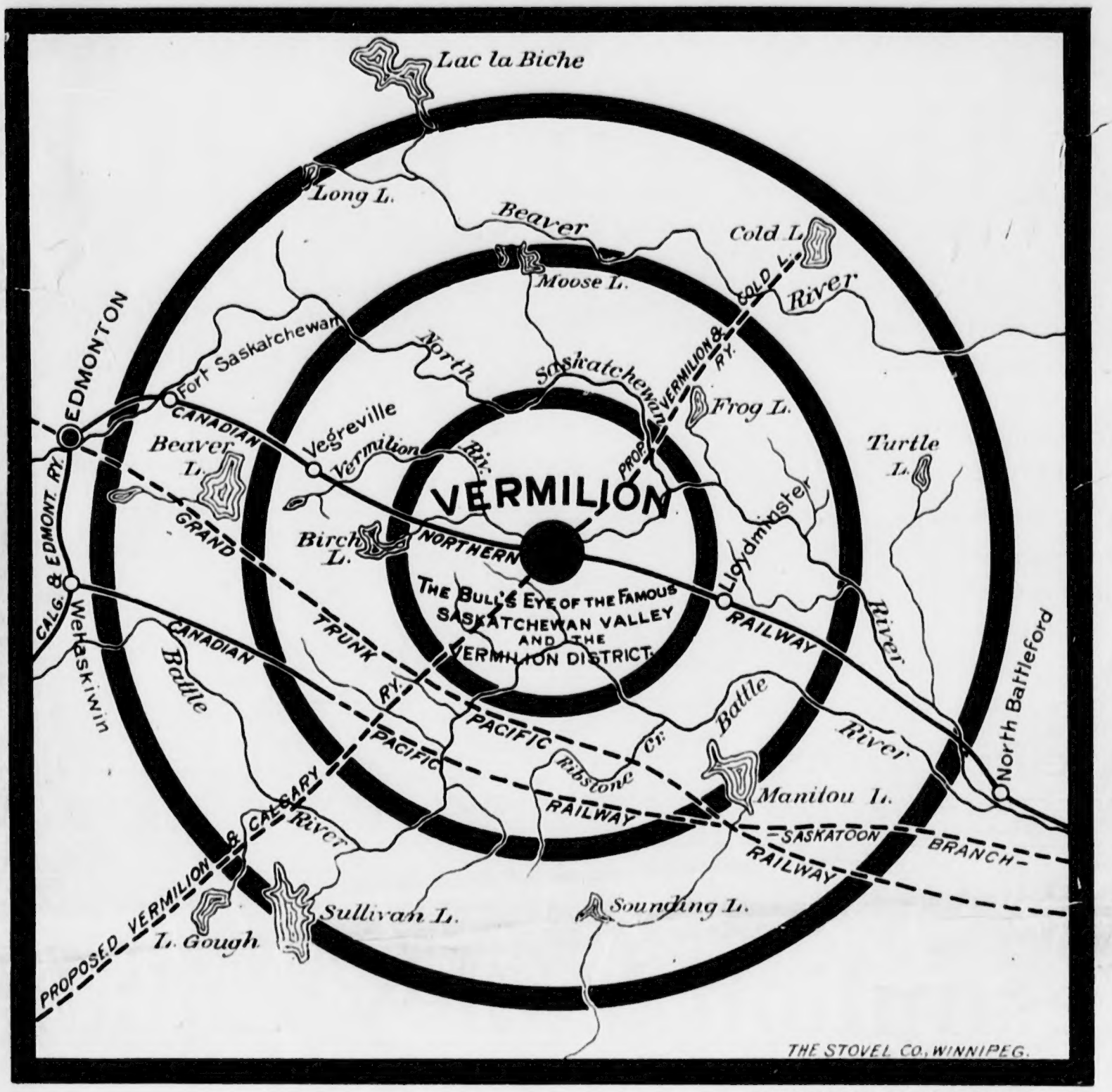
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